

# GQ

AUSTRALIA

GENTLEMEN'S QUARTERLY

REPORT

## PORN MURDER MADNESS

THE MESSY WORLD  
OF SOCIAL MEDIA  
MODERATORS

The new **GQ**  
**BIGGER**  
**STRONGER**  
**FASTER**  
**SMARTER**

215

WINNING  
LOOKS

AUTUMN RACING  
SEASON SORTED

THE LAB

HOTTEST  
TECH TRIED  
AND TESTED

# GAME OF THRONES

NIKOLAJ COSTER-WALDAU

DRAGONS, DEATH AND HOW  
THIS FANTASY PHENOMENON  
CHANGED THE FACE OF TV

2

COVERS TO  
COLLECT

BEN MENDELSOHN | THREESOMES | DANIEL RICCIARDO  
GIRLS | NETFLIX | PLUS MATT MORAN JOINS THE TEAM

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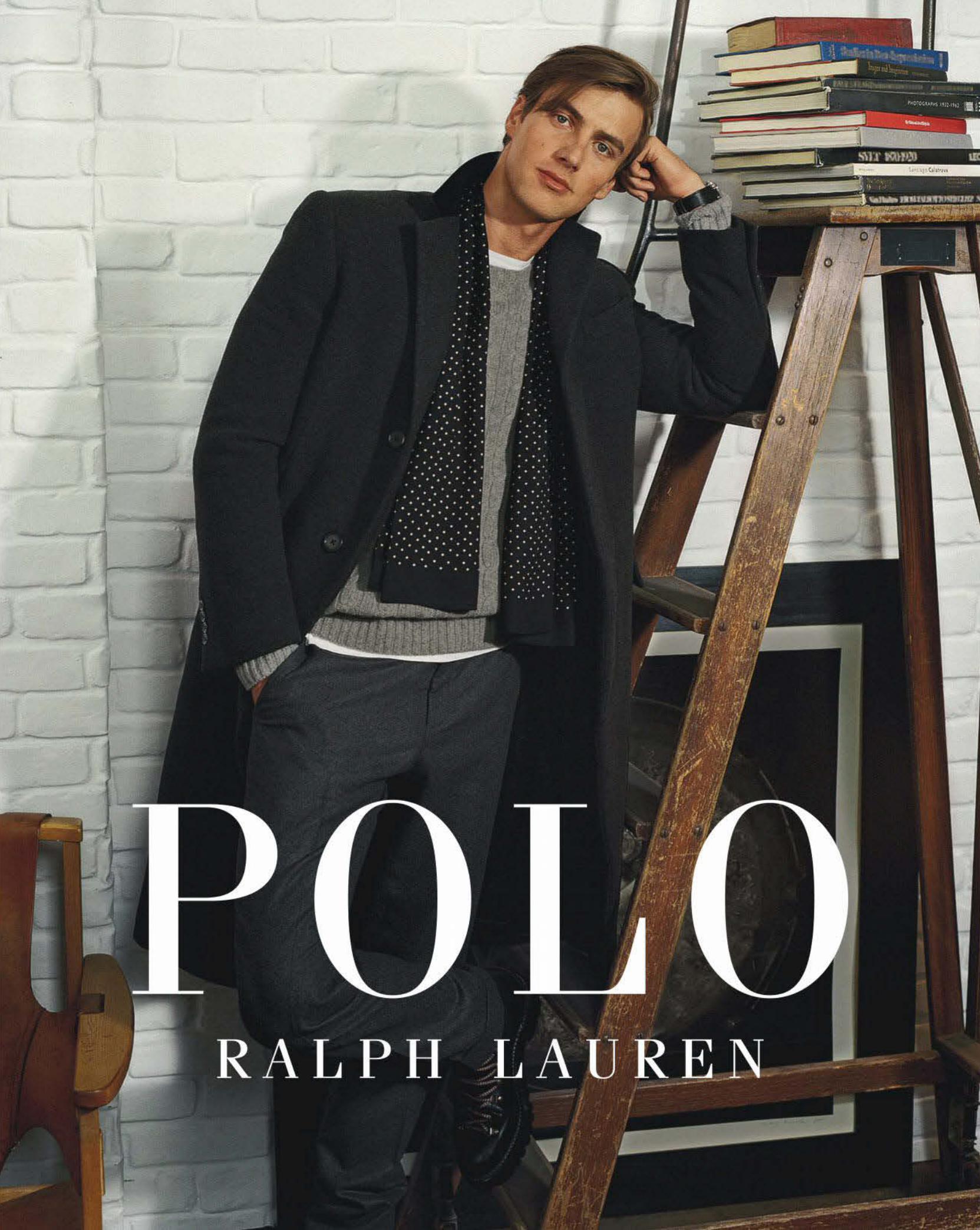
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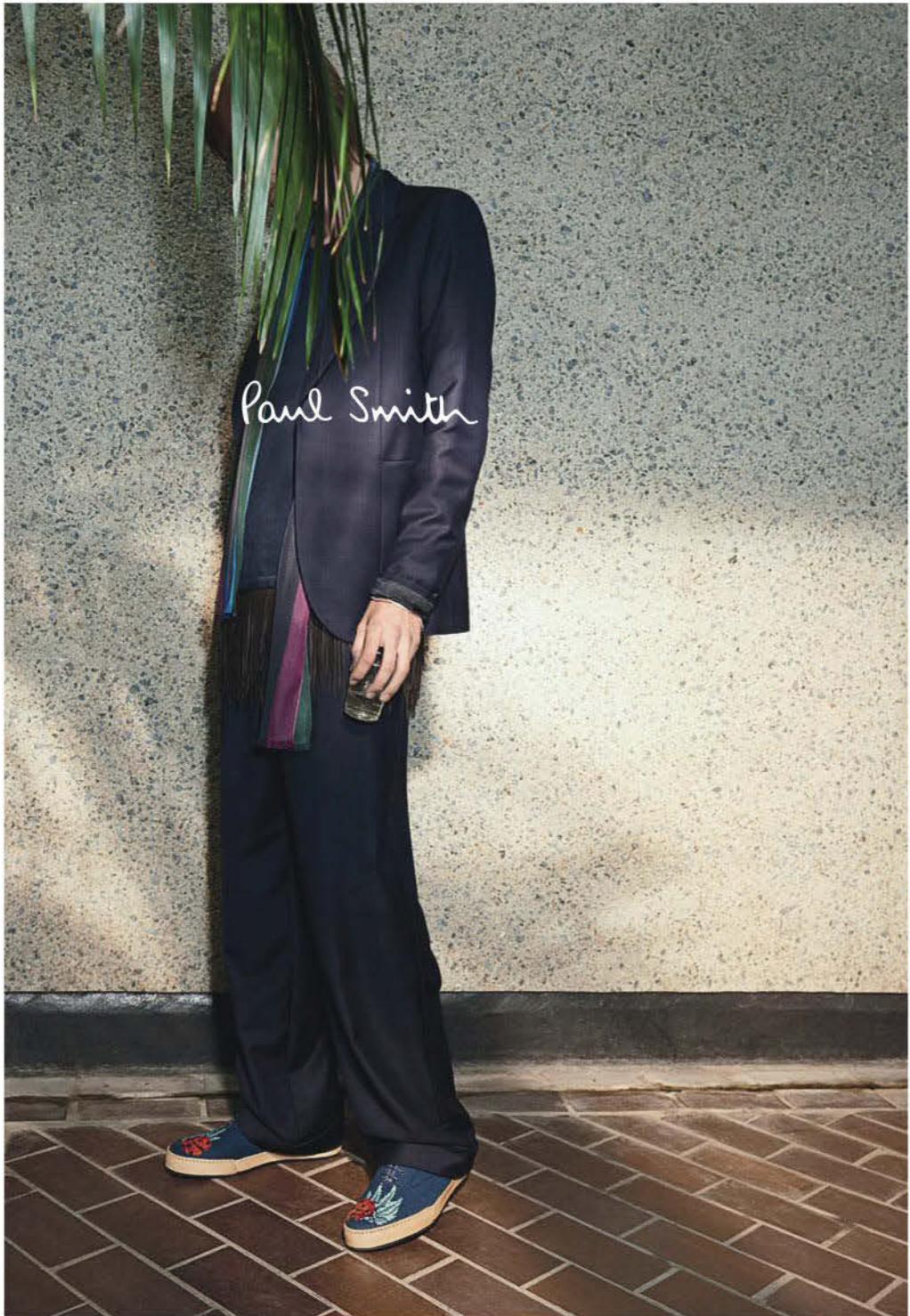




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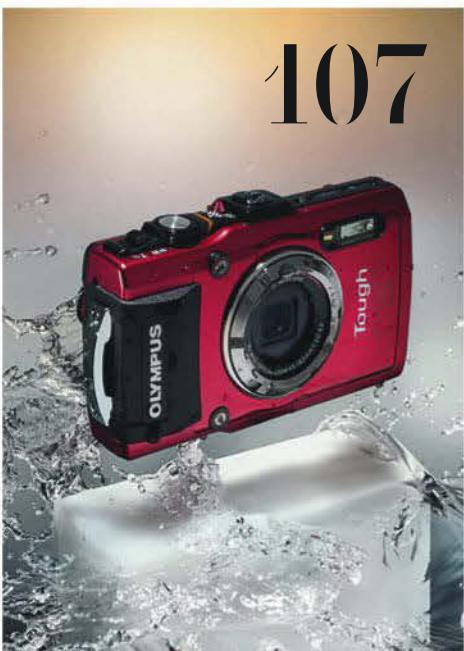
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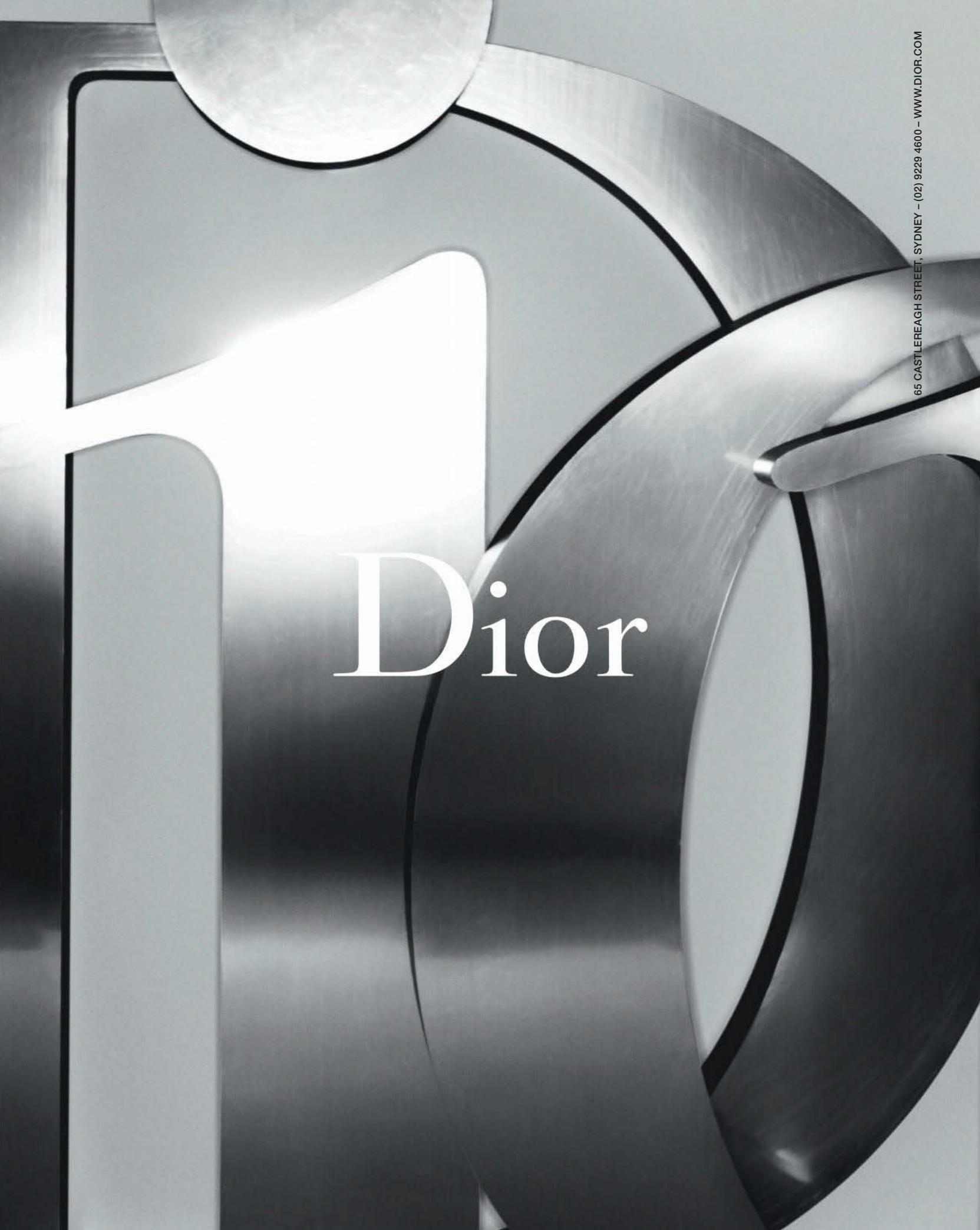




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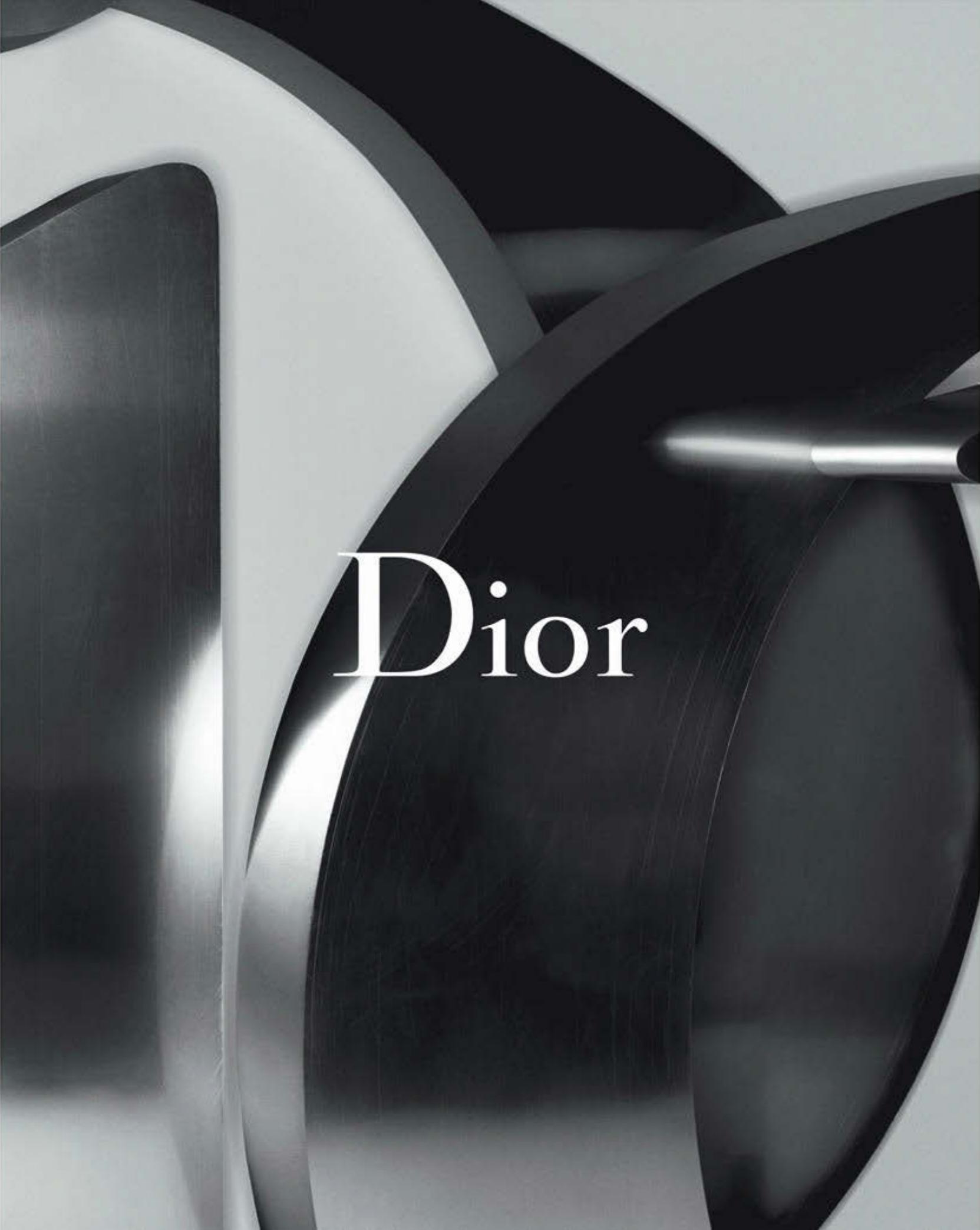


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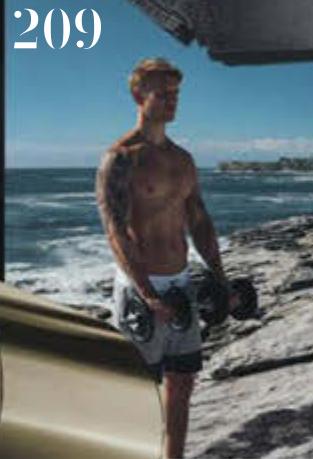
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# from the editor in chief

Are you a Jon Snow or a Jaime Lannister fan? Whatever the answer, I'm 100 per cent confident you know what I'm talking about – *Game of Thrones*. Or *GoT*, for the overly familiar. Like the continual debate around Australian leadership, HBO's fantastic medieval drama is a national obsession.



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As a kid, I could never understand the... I'm looking for a more politically correct word than geeky... other, yes, *other* kids' obsession with *Dungeons & Dragons*. It just wasn't real. Role-playing on a quest to gain more power and battle mystical characters seemed a waste of good socialising time. (Though, most of those kids have probably gone on to be gaming entrepreneurs of some sort with enough power and wealth to own me.)

Given that, *Game of Thrones*' production values are incredible. The relentless storylines, which involve favourite characters getting cut down just as you start sympathising with them, are both brutally and addictively compelling. And the sex scenes are better than any fortuitous bum shot from the 1990's Aussie drama *Chances*.

In Australia particularly, this show has captured imaginations – our willingness to illegally download it proof of a want to escape the everyday. Perhaps now that horrific world news involving terrorism, abduction and large-scale climatic events – which for so long were the problems of other nations and the fodder of blockbuster movies – is upon our own doorstep, we're looking more and more to fantastical entertainment to flee the realities of reality. Maybe that's looking into it too much, but it's noteworthy to add that our farthest-reaching news broadcaster, *news.com.au*, now has its own news pillar dedicated to *Game of Thrones* – a respite when the events of the day gets all too much.

In celebration of the obsession, we've created two covers for you this issue, featuring *GoT* stars Kit Harington (Jon Snow) and Nikolaj Coster-Waldau (Jaime Lannister). Two options, almost like a game of *Dungeons & Dragons*. Are you a Jon or a Jaime? You decide. Or maybe you can't – and choose both (p144).

On to GQ Generation now, a collaboration with our good friends at Olympus that's allowed us to unearth the

country's next generation of creative talent across photography, styling, grooming, writing and graphic design. The premise was to assemble a fresh, new creative team from each discipline, to arm each member with a mentor from our roster of incredible staff and contributors, and give them free rein on the production of a fashion shoot to appear in the pages of this issue (as well as be documented across *GQ.com.au* and our social media channels). It's a pretty ballsy move to hand the pages of our magazine to newcomers in such a way, in fact it may even be a global *GQ* first.

From hundreds of entries, we pulled together a team and handed them the brief to produce a fashion feature that depicted the current vibrancy of Australian men's fashion. They also had to run the full and perilous gauntlet of presenting to our highly qualified (some might say controlling) editorial team. We like to think it rolled out more like *X Factor* than *The Hunger Games*, and I'm pleased to say all GQ Generation members made it through the process unscathed. I, for one, am thrilled with the result, which can be viewed, along with the winners, from p159. In fact, we're now so committed to uncovering the talent of tomorrow, we'll be running our GQ Generation program on a yearly basis. So, watch out for the next call for entries if you're interested. And you should be.

There's lots more for you this month in the award-winning *GQ* Australia, and you'll notice it's all packaged up in a slick new design. We're still delivering all your must-reads such as Dan Rookwood's 'HeQ' column (p92), our Autumn Racing special in Outfitter and your guide to essential style (p113), and The Source (p57), with everything you need to know to keep you culturally current. And we've introduced more to satisfy your *GQ* fix with fresh contributors – Charlie Pickering's new column continues with some strong words



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to politicians (p96); we give Tim 'Rosso' Ross a soapbox for his obsession with motoring nostalgia (p104); and GQ's 2014 Food Force, Matt Moran also takes over the Taste & Travel section (p135). In fact, in each department, you'll find our team has sought out bloody successful guys to share their secrets for making every part of our life more, for no better word, *GQ*.

And with that, I want to introduce you to the team behind your new *GQ* Australia. It's either one, or all of them, who you're talking to (or giving a good talking to) on a minute-by-minute basis via our Instagram, Facebook and Twitter feeds, and, hey, you'll now find us on Pinterest among the macramé hanging pots.

Here's what they've been up to this month. From left, features writer Jake loved putting together 'The GQ Guide to First Times' (p190) and didn't think he'd have so much fun dishing out advice on threesomes. His mum will be proud. Art director Josh enjoyed time out of the office to hang with Matt Moran and managed a whole side of his amazing roast beef for lunch (p135). Christian, our digital designer, makes our Source 'Gear' (p64) come alive in the interactive tablet edition; market editor Emma styled the autumn racing piece in Outfitter, while sports fanatic and chief sub Mike will be forwarding the 'Open Letter' (p216) he penned directly to his wife. Fashion editor Barnaby whipped around Bangkok at night to produce our fashion shoot (p182) and was left speechless from a day with the beautiful Jessica Gomes (p176). Meanwhile, deputy editor Richard enjoyed the opportunity to mentor the winning writer as part of GQ Generation (p159), remembering what it was like to start out in this industry and the excitement attached

to first seeing your work in *GQ*. And for *GQ.com.au*, online assistant Natasha's 'Instagram Girls of the Week' have been going viral, while the site's producer John got a lesson in good music (and romance) when he interviewed smooth Kiwi singer Connan Mockasin.

I tell these guys, 'You have the best jobs in the world delivering the standard for Australian men's lifestyle,' and repeat it over and over again in a hypnotic manner. Now, they spend 24 hours a day scouring the globe to bring you a distinctly Aussie man's perspective of what to know, what to do, what to wear and how to wear it.

So, take note and enjoy the issue.

Best,



**Nick Smith**

EDITOR IN CHIEF



## TEAM GQ

From left: Jake wears black wool jacket (part of suit), \$1660, by **Paul Smith**; black leather 'Bally Saf Flat' shoes, \$2785, by **Christian Louboutin**. Shirt, pants and pocket square, Jake's own. Josh wears charcoal wool blazer, \$549, by **Aquila**; black wool-blend 'Eclipse' pants, \$189, by **Marc's**; black leather 'Lincoln' shoes, \$535, by **Paul Smith**; black silk pocket square, \$105, by **Emporio Armani**. Glasses, Josh's own. Christian wears white cotton shirt, \$89.95, by **Calvin Klein White Label**; navy silk tie, \$160, by **Paul Smith**; black imitation leather shoes, \$69.95, by **H&M**; navy silk pocket square, \$34.95, by **TM Lewin**. Suit, Christian's own. Emma wears black silk dress, \$1135, by **Emporio Armani**; black leather 'Otrot' heels, \$1665, by **Christian Louboutin**; sterling silver 'Horsebit' bracelet, \$1510, by **Gucci**. Mike wears navy wool tuxedo jacket (sold as a suit), \$4800, by **Dior Homme**; metal tie bar, approx. \$19, by **The Tie Bar**. Pants, shirt, tie and pocket square, Mike's own. Barnaby wears navy silk tie, \$145, by **Paul Smith**. Suit, shirt, shoes and watch, Barnaby's own. Richard wears navy wool jacket, \$1355, matching pants, \$580, and white silk pocket square, \$105, all by **Emporio Armani**; white cotton 'Bond' shirt, \$440, by **Ralph Lauren Black Label**; blue silk tie, \$129, by **Farage**; black leather 'Greggo' shoes, \$1195, by **Christian Louboutin**. Natasha wears black silk dress, \$980, by **Emporio Armani**; black leather 'Saloptina' heels, \$1665, by **Christian Louboutin**; silver/palladium 'Clic-clac H' bracelet, \$960, by **Hermès**. John wears black/white silk 'Madras' pocket square, \$180, by **Louis Vuitton**. Suit, shirt, socks and shoes, John's own. Furniture supplied by Coco Republic - cocorepublic.com.au

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# contributors



## FLASH PARKER

TRAVEL WRITER

Parker took off to Lisbon for a tour of the Portuguese capital's bars and baroque buildings. See what else he got up to (p142).

### ANY DECENT TRAVEL TIPS?

Checked-bag fees are for chumps – I can stuff three weeks worth of gear into my carry-on. Also, noise-cancelling headphones are a no-brainer.

### AND IN REGARD TO TRAVEL WRITING?

Write every day – then write some more. Being successful is about finding your own voice and crafting a style that is both captivating and inspiring. That only comes through practice and perseverance.

### ANY PET PEEVES?

I want to scream whenever I read a destination 'changed how I see the world'. It's lazy. Specific facts and anecdotes colour good travel writing – banal hyperbole and writing on the fugacious nature of feelings is boring. Good writing is specific writing.

### HAVE A FAVOURITE SPOT?

Every place has its own charms, but I do love the mix of friendly people, remarkable cuisine and batshit crazy in Myanmar. To visit is to glimpse south-east Asia as it was 50 years ago – but it's changing faster than almost any other place on Earth, so if you want to go, go now.



## CARLOTTA MOYE

PHOTOGRAPHER

"The shoot was amazing," says Moye, who captured our fashion story on the streets of Bangkok (p182). "We cast a local model called Boom who was my inspiration for the whole editorial – he just oozed coolness."

### WHO HAVE YOU LOVED WORKING WITH?

I was beside myself when I shot Linda Evangelista and Christy Turlington. Jordan and Zac Stenmark are such gentlemen, but my favourite Aussie guy is Chris Hemsworth – he's so charming and down to earth.

### CAN YOU GIVE US SOME PHOTOGRAPHY POINTERS?

Stand with the sun behind you and set the camera to 'fill in flash', which fills in all the flaws and makes you look healthy and fresh. Take lots of shots because the more you take, the better you'll get.

### ANYTHING TO AVOID?

Try not to shoot in the middle of the day. The sun is too high and you'll get harsh, ugly shadows.

### YOU'RE @CARLOTTAMOYE ON INSTAGRAM. WHO ELSE IS WORTH A FOLLOW?

@Caraiva for fabulous French-inspired fashion images; @2bmanagement, which represents the world's most talented photographers; @EvelienJoos who casts for *CR Fashion Book* – then you'll always know about models on the rise.



## ROBERT VARKEVISSE

VIDEOGRAPHER

Varkevisser was on set to capture some behind-the-scenes video of our saucy shoot with Jessica Gomes (p176). "It's the first time I've worked with Jessica and I found her to be very engaging, fun and friendly," he reports. "Easy to work with and professional at all times." We'd expect nothing less.

### ANY ADVICE FOR BUDDING VIDEOGRAPHERS OUT THERE?

Don't limit yourself to one field – explore and try out different things. Watch films, music videos, adverts or any motion content from an educational point of view. The potential for learning is endless.

### WHAT ARE SOME PITFALLS?

Overcomplicating situations. Sometimes a simple, clean shot goes a long way.

### WHAT VIDEO STYLES ARE YOU NOT KEEN ON?

I'm not the biggest fan of that hyper-real, razor-sharp feel of footage where you can see everything in too much detail.

### WHAT KIT DO YOU NEED TO GET STARTED?

I've seen some amazing stuff done on a smartphone and some not so amazing stuff on \$80,000 set-ups. You don't have to sell your kidneys – all you need is a device to record motion, plenty of curiosity and a whole lot of passion. Have fun with it and see where you go.



## JOSH BEGGS

### ART DIRECTOR

Beggs joined the good ship *GQ* back in 2013, and is the reason our newly re-designed magazine looks so fantastic. Right, guys?

### THE BEST THING ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Watching the magazine go from ideas, conversations and plans, to becoming pictures, words and design on the page. Seeing the finished product never gets old.

### WHAT DID YOU ENJOY IN THIS ISSUE?

I always love collaborating with illustrators and had lots of fun with Guy Shield on our 'GQ Guide to First Times' (p190).

### GREATEST ADVICE YOU'VE BEEN GIVEN?

Look at a page upside down. It helps to check the balance on a page, and you'd be surprised how effective it is.

### RIGHTO – THOUGH THIS MAG IS BEST ENJOYED THE RIGHT WAY UP. WHERE DO YOU HEAD FOR INSPIRATION?

[coverjunkie.com](http://coverjunkie.com) to keep an eye on magazine covers from around the world and [spd.org](http://spd.org) – the Society of Publication Designers. But these days most of my time is spent on Pinterest and Instagram.

### YOU HAVE A REPUTATION AS QUITE THE CONNOISSEUR OF CRAPPY TV. ANY FAVOURITES?

It's true, I have been known to watch one – maybe 20 – really terrible TV shows. *90 Day Fiancé*, anyone?

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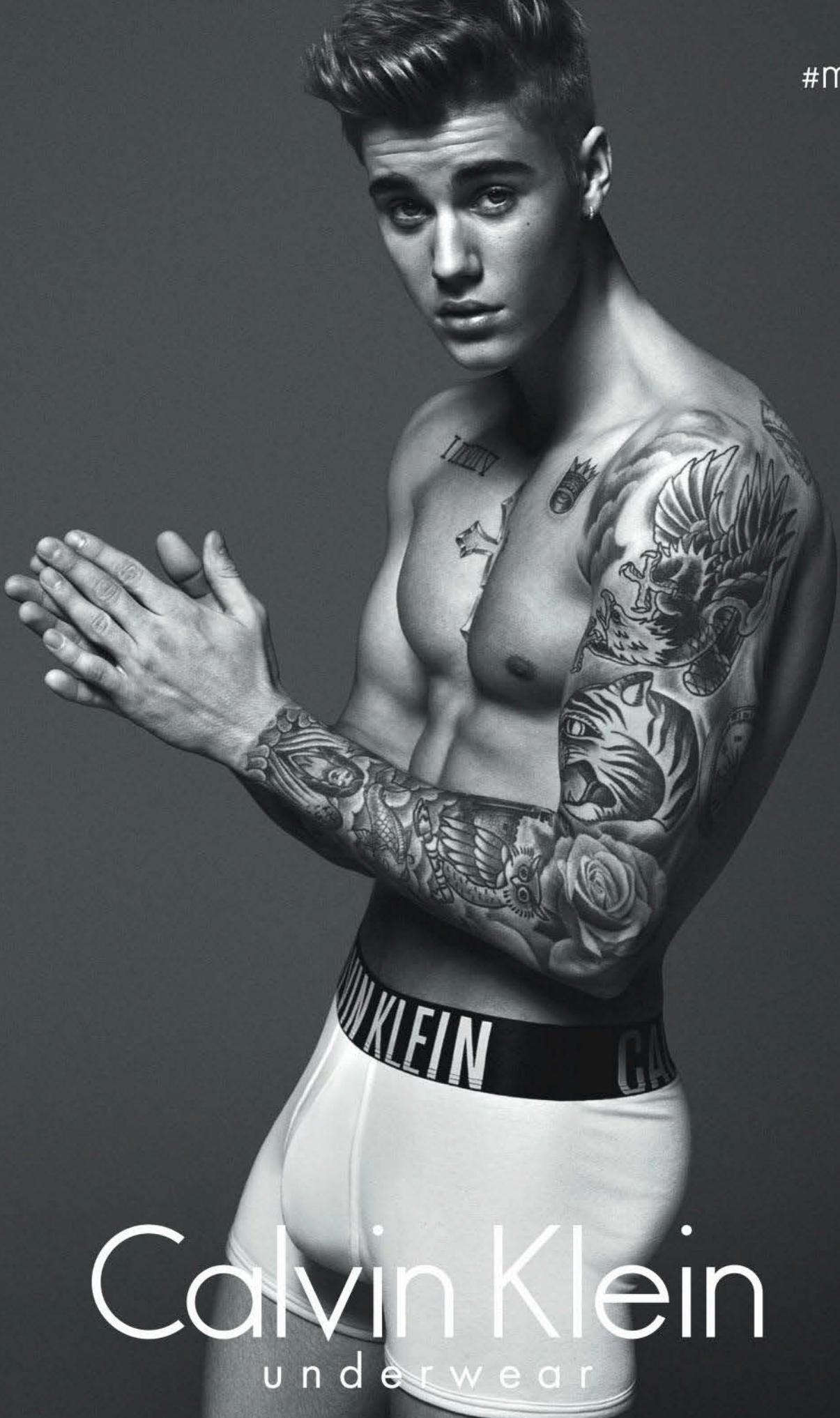
**GQ AUSTRALIA** magazine is published by NewsLifeMedia (ACN 088 923 906), Level 1, 2 Holt Street,

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PUBLISHED UNDER JOINT VENTURE:

BRAZIL

Published by Edições Globo  
Condé Nast S.A.  
Vogue, Casa Vogue,  
GQ, Glamour, GQ Style

SPAIN

Published by Ediciones Conelpa, S.L.  
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AUSTRALIA

Published by NewsLifeMedia  
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BULGARIA

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# what's new on

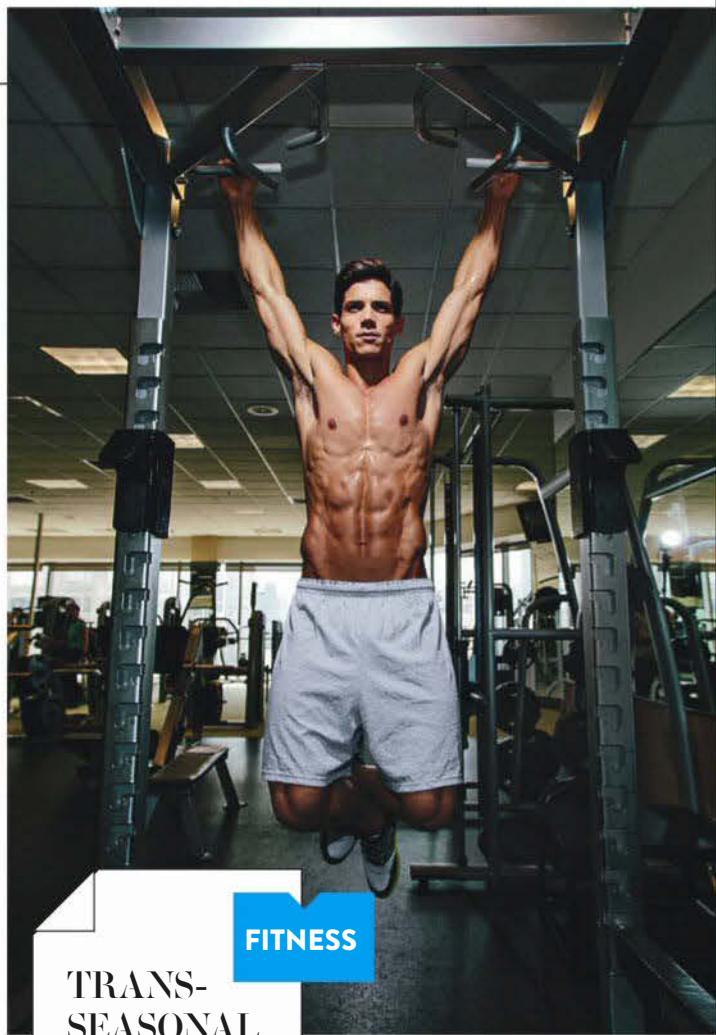


EVERYTHING YOU NEED, ONLINE.



## STYLE

What's #trending in men's style? We're live from Melbourne and Sydney fashion weeks, bringing you GQ's very own catwalk show, as well as backstage interviews, designer profiles and the best of Australian street style.



## FITNESS

TRANS-SEASONAL WORKOUTS: FIVE WAYS TO BREAK A SWEAT INDOORS.

## TV

Australia has long been deprived of some of the world's best TV. Now, in the impending face of an online piracy shitstorm, streaming services such as Stan, Presto and Quickflix are aiming to ease the pain, with Netflix touching down this month. But which one's best to gorge on all your favourite shows? We rate them all in our GQ-approved TV streaming guide. Read, buy, binge. Repeat.

- ▶ **WATCHES** THE LATEST WRIST CANDY FROM BASELWORLD 2015
- ▶ **WOMEN** OUR FAVOURITE GIRLS OF INSTAGRAM, UPDATED EVERY WEEK
- ▶ **PUB EDIT** AUSTRALIA'S 25 BEST DRINKING HOLES TO CALL YOUR LOCAL

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# BOTTEGA VENETA

POUR HOMME EXTRÊME



THE NEW FRAGRANCE  
FOR MEN

AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY AT THE BOTTEGA VENETA BOUTIQUES AND

**DAVID JONES**

# feedback

## STAR LETTER

The magazine is great, and it's fantastic that you have Aussie blokes on the cover. It would be even better if you could get Dr Chris Brown for a cover and fashion shoot, too. He is smart, good looking and has a terrific personality. Ticks all the boxes. Women and men love him – hope you can make it happen!

**A LEVENDIS, VIA AUSTRALIA POST**

OK, so there **REALLY** is an uncanny amount of love for the good doctor Brown. And Chris, if you're reading this, please have your mum tone it down. It's getting out of hand.

Well hello GQ Australia – thank you for a simply wonderful day and a wonderful shoot XOXO

**YVONNE STRAHOVSKI, VIA TWITTER**

Thanks Yvonne – the pleasure was indeed ours.

There isn't one sentence of this month's 'SheQ' that didn't have me internally man-chuckling. Kudos Meg Mason!

**@AAEON\_HUS, VIA TWITTER**

Really enjoyed the Chris Hemsworth article. A nice bloke who hasn't let Hollywood go to his head. Great read.

**JADE O'SHEA, VIA GQ.COM.AU**

Feel the same way about Chris Hemsworth in GQ Australia this month as I do when I see my food



coming in a restaurant.  
**@FREYABIDWELL, VIA TWITTER**

Loved it, as I do every issue! I especially like the section on must-have men's shoes. Great info!  
**EVAN SCOTT, VIA GQ.COM.AU**

Really enjoyed reading about Yvonne Strahovski, as she's made a mark in entertainment, while still holding on to her Aussie and Polish heritage!  
**KUNAL ADLAKHA, VIA GQ.COM.AU**

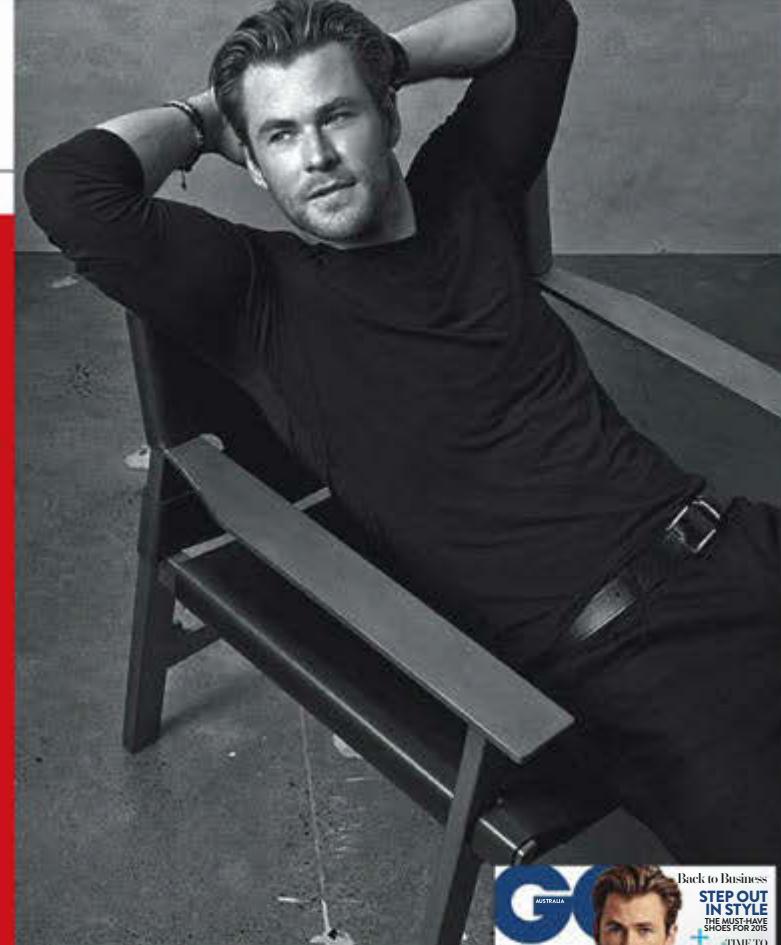


**EDDY REDMAYNE**

**YVONNE STRAHOVSKI**

**CHRIS HEMSWORTH**

**WHAT'S TRENDING ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



## LOVE THE COVER, LOVE CHRIS HEMSWORTH. REALLY NICE JOB!

**@JOHNSANT87, VIA TWITTER**



Picked mine up yesterday.  
Love the cover!

**ALESSANDRO GAUDIOSI, VIA FACEBOOK**

Gorgeous cover!  
**AMY ELIZABETH, VIA FACEBOOK**  
The response was nearly universal – social media went absolutely crazy for the Aussie actor.

Chris Hemsworth in GQ Australia. Byeeeeee I'm dead.  
**@KAYLEE\_KRISTINE, VIA TWITTER**

And then things got a bit weird.

Chris Hemsworth on GQ. I'm stabbing my foot!  
**@SOPHIALOP3Z, VIA TWITTER**  
See?

## WRITE TO WIN

WHAT DID YOU MAKE OF THE ISSUE? LET US KNOW BY EMAILING [EDITORIAL@GQ.COM.AU](mailto:EDITORIAL@GQ.COM.AU) OR VIA TWITTER OR FACEBOOK, AND THANKS TO BOWERS & WILKINS, YOU COULD WIN THIS LIMITED-EDITION 'SPECTRUM OF SOUND' BOX SET, WITH FOUR PAIR OF AWARD-WINNING 'P3' HEADPHONES. SHARE THEM WITH YOUR FRIENDS, OR KEEP THEM TO YOURSELF – YOU KNOW, ONE FOR EVERY OUTFIT. IT'S WORTH \$100. [BOWERS-WILKINS.COM](http://BOWERS-WILKINS.COM)





**BOSS**  
HUGO BOSS



*Any colour as long as it's... **PINK***

THOMAS PINK  
JERMYN STREET LONDON

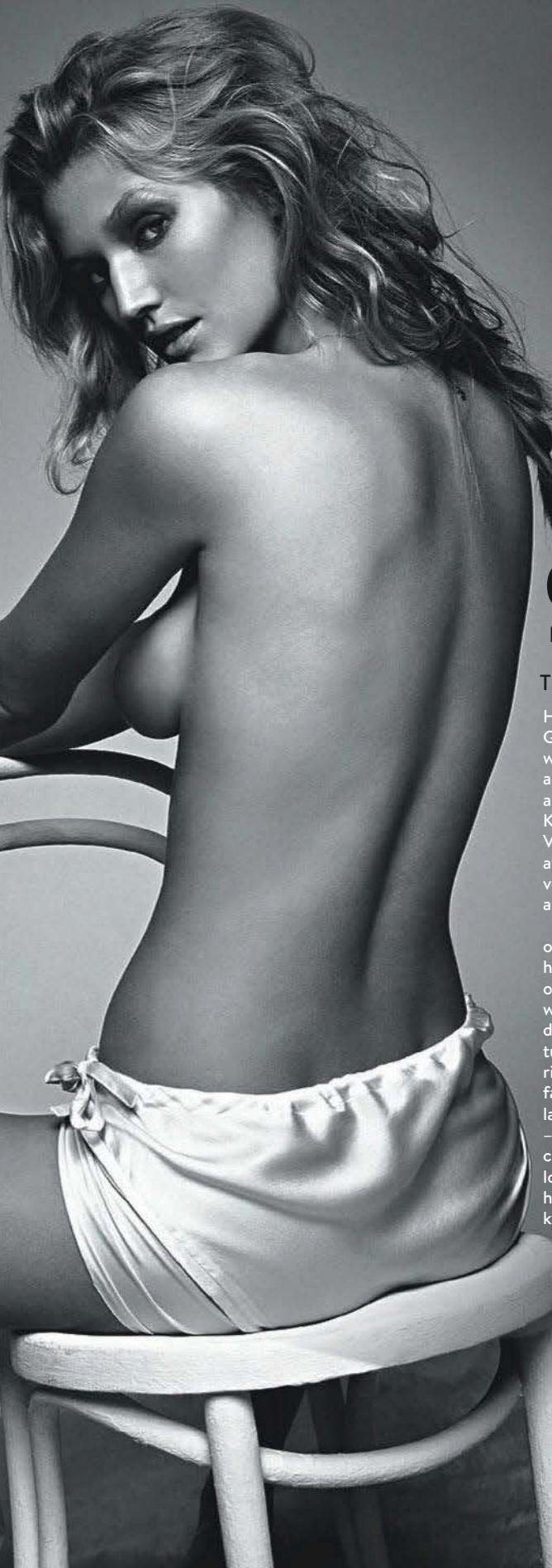


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AVAILABLE AT

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# the SOURCE



GIRL

## TONI GARRN

HOLD THE KNEIKÜCHLE AS WE COSY UP WITH THIS GERMAN STUNNER.

Here's what we know about Miss Garrn. She's from Hamburg, she was discovered as a model at 13, and two years later, she signed an exclusive contract with Calvin Klein. She's also a three-time Victoria's Secret Angel and has appeared in 12 international versions of *Vogue* magazine, as you do.

What catapulted the 22-year-old to the world's attention, however, wasn't Fendi, Prada or Hugo Boss (they didn't hurt), it was Leonardo DiCaprio, who she dated for 18 months and whose turnover of leggy supermodels rivals that of most high-end fashion labels. While they broke up last December, spare the Kleenex – one look at those razor-sharp cheekbones suggests Garrn can look after herself. That said, we'll happily keep an eye on her. You know, just to be safe.





### THE COFFEE-TABLE BOOK

Illustration is the hottest thing to hit menswear since cashmere trackies came back in style. Proof? This 288-page tome, courtesy of the talented Mr Richard Kilroy. Between working for Dior, Canali, Vman and Numéro, he's found time to profile 40 of the coolest men's fashion illustrators from around the globe. We love. *Menswear Illustration*, \$45; [thameshudson.com.au](http://thameshudson.com.au)

### THE GADGET

Milled from a solid piece of sustainable walnut, this bluetooth iPad stylus is modelled on a traditional, carpenter's pencil. Ideal for serious creatives – or people who like having nice things. *Pencil Digital Stylus for iPad*, approx. \$75; [fiftythree.com](http://fiftythree.com)



3

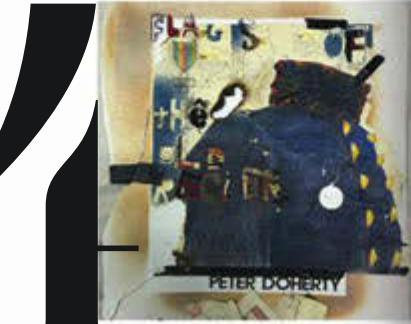
### THE SERIES

After six-and-a-half seasons, 85 episodes and a (surely) lethal number of Old Fashioneds, the end is nigh for *Mad Men*. The second instalment of the seventh and final series, 'The End of an Era', is the reason you'll be stockpiling snacks and cancelling evening plans the next few months. *Mad Men* airs on Showcase from April 5



### THE MAN CANDLE

Everyone's making candles these days, so congrats to Brooklyn-based studio IN.SEK for catching our eye with this concrete soy-wax piece. It comes in a cool, reclaimed wooden box, while the company also makes a bunch of other stylish homewares well worth a gander. *Concrete soy wax candle*, \$58.25; [insekdesign.com](http://insekdesign.com)



### THE TRACK

FOLLOWING A(NOTHER) STINT IN REHAB, PETE DOHERTY IS BACK WITH THIS TRIBUTE TO LATE FRIEND, AMY WINEHOUSE. ALL PROCEEDS OF THE SINGLE'S SALES GO TO THE AMY WINEHOUSE FOUNDATION, AND WITH TALK OF A NEW LIBERTINES ALBUM IN THE WORKS, 2015 MIGHT BE THE YEAR KATE MOSS'S EX FINALLY GETS HIS SHIT TOGETHER. HERE'S HOPING, ANYWAY. 'FLAGS OF THE OLD REGIME' IS OUT NOW ON 7" VINYL AND DIGITAL DOWNLOAD; [WALKTALLRECORDINGS.CO.UK](http://WALKTALLRECORDINGS.CO.UK)



MAN—WOMAN—NOW

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SEAN CONNERY IS 12 YEARS OLDER THAN HARRISON FORD, WHO PLAYED HIS SON IN *INDIANA JONES AND THE LAST CRUSADE*.

WEARS HIS SHIRT BUTTONED UP TO THE NECK BECAUSE "I DON'T LIKE WIND ON MY COLLARBONE, IT FEELS STRANGE".

1980'S *THE ELEPHANT MAN* RECEIVED EIGHT OSCAR NOMINATIONS.

COLLABORATED WITH DOM PÉRIGNON CHAMPAGNE, IN 2011, FOR TWO LIMITED-EDITION BOTTLES.

**EXHIBITION**

**DAVID LYNCH**

FIRST TRAINED AS A PAINTER AND IS A BIG FAN OF FRANCIS BACON.

WITH A NEW RETROSPECTIVE OF HIS WORK SHOWING AT QUEENSLAND'S GALLERY OF MODERN ART, HERE'S OUR CHEAT TO EVERYONE'S FAVOURITE ODDBALL FILMMAKER. DAVID LYNCH: BETWEEN TWO WORLDS RUNS FROM MARCH 14; QAGOMA.QLD.GOV.AU

RELEASED DEBUT SOLO ALBUM *CRAZY CLOWN TIME* IN 2011 - AND LOW AND BEHOLD, IT WAS GREAT. FOLLOWED UP WITH 2013'S *THE BIG DREAM*.

SEEKING TO RAISE \$9bn TO BUILD SEVEN 'UNIVERSITIES OF WORLD PEACE', TO TEACH TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION, WHICH HE'S PRACTISED FOR 42 YEARS.

HAIR!

PRODUCES HIS OWN COFFEE, THE DAVID LYNCH 'SIGNATURE CUP', WITH THE TAGLINE 'IT'S ALL IN THE BEANS... AND I'M JUST FULL OF BEANS'. QUITE.

CULT TV SERIES *TWIN PEAKS* IS SET TO RETURN TO SCREENS NEXT YEAR.

1977 DEBUT FILM, *ERASERHEAD*, WAS ORIGINALLY DERIDED AS "UNWATCHABLE" BUT IS NOW CONSIDERED A CLASSIC. TO BE FAIR, IT'S ODD. VERY ODD.

**FASHION**

## EVERYTHING OLD IS NEW AGAIN



THE SPECS

### MOSCOT

Hipsters rejoice. Eyewear aficionado Moscot is turning 100 – but rather than waiting for a telegram from the Queen, the New York label has been hard at work. It's released three new special-edition variations on its classic 'Lemtosh' model – 'Wood', with added timber inlay; 'Smart', which has a flash of the brand's signature yellow (Pantone 602 C, to be exact); 'Fold', which, um, folds up. The centurions have also created the Moscot 'Smart Drive' package, with three clip-on lenses for different driving conditions. [wearethestables.com](http://wearethestables.com)



THE DENIM

### LEVI'S

Back in January, Levi's launched its 501 CT jeans (pictured) – a fresh, customised version of the original 501 available from David Jones, Myer and Levi's retailers. As of next month, the denim giant will partner exclusively with Mr Porter (and sister store Net-A-Porter) to release a limited-edition, three-piece capsule collection. What can we say, good jeans are in Levi's DNA. [levis.com.au](http://levis.com.au)



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1. MAD MEN 'DRAPER DOF' TUMBLERS, \$249 (for two), by Waterford Crystal; [wwrd.com.au](http://wwrd.com.au)
2. MAD MEN 'CIRCON' DECANTER, \$499, by Waterford Crystal; [wwrd.com.au](http://wwrd.com.au)
3. FRAMED '2015' WALL CALENDAR, \$200, by Playtype; [theminimalist.com.au](http://theminimalist.com.au)
4. WIRELESS 'AURA' SPEAKER, \$549, by harman/kardon by Harman; [harmankardon.com](http://harmankardon.com)
5. VIBES VINYL LP, \$18.98, by Theophilus London; [thameshudson.com.au](http://thameshudson.com.au)
6. JAZZLIFE, \$70, by Taschen; [titlestore.com.au](http://titlestore.com.au)
7. 'GS1000E' HEADPHONES, \$1249, by Grado; [gradolabs.com](http://gradolabs.com)
8. WALNUT '3X SHELF' SIDEBOARD, \$1460, by LAXseries; [spenceandlyda.com.au](http://spenceandlyda.com.au)
9. PORTABLE 'T7' SPEAKER, \$499, by Bowers & Wilkins; [bowers-wilkins.com](http://bowers-wilkins.com)
10. HIPGNOSIS PORTRAITS, \$70, by Thames & Hudson; [thameshudson.com.au](http://thameshudson.com.au)

WITH AN IN-BUILT SPEAKER, THIS CAN ALSO CONNECT TO AN MP3 PLAYER – PERFECT IF YOU HAPPEN TO BE A COMPLETE PHILISTINE.

'CR6017A-MA' TURNTABLE, \$129, by Crosley; [myer.com.au](http://myer.com.au)



THIS HANDY LITTLE GUY LETS YOU PACK UP YOUR SOUND STATION AND TAKE IT WITH YOU – FOR WHEN YOU'RE ON THE MOVE. DID SOMEONE SAY VINYL PARTY? PORTABLE 'CRUISER' TURNTABLE, \$149, by Crosley; [myer.com.au](http://myer.com.au)

**GEAR**

## LATE-NIGHT SESSIONS

TURNTABLES ARE NO LONGER THE STUFF OF HIPSTERS – SO KICK BACK, POP ON SOME FAVOURITE TUNES AND LIVE OUT YOUR STYLISH DON DRAPER FANTASIES. AND MAKE OURS A SCOTCH WITH TWO ROCKS, THANKS.

FANCY A TIPPLE? CHECK OUT OUR AUSSIE SPIRITS GUIDE ON p143





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ENTRY LEVEL

WATCHES

NEXT LEVEL

# TIME TO INVEST

FEW WARDROBE PURCHASES BEAT A QUALITY TIMEPIECE. BUT SINCE BUILDING A COLLECTION TAKES TIME, THIS WRISTFUL OF OPTIONS WILL GET THINGS STARTED - WITH A FEW TO SET YOUR SIGHTS ON, FOR WHEN YOU'RE CLOSER TO THAT CORNER OFFICE.



1. Stainless steel 'Clifton Small Seconds' watch, \$3350, by Baume & Mercier.

2. Stainless steel 'Colt Quartz' watch, \$3860, by Breitling.

3. Stainless steel/ceramic 'Formula 1 Quartz' watch, \$2650, by TAG Heuer.

4. Stainless steel 'Tank Solo' watch, \$4300, by Cartier.

*The best part of a century old, the 'Tank' watch is a versatile timepiece that can be dressed up or down - either way, it's a classic.*

1. 18k gold 'Clifton 1830 Manual' watch, \$16,200, by Baume & Mercier.

2. Stainless steel 'Navitimer 01 46mm' watch, \$10,030, by Breitling.

*Just closed a big deal? (This also comes in a limited-edition rose gold model, which will cost a cool \$31,260.)*

3. Limited-edition carbon 'Carrera Calibre 1887 Automatic Chronograph' watch, \$12,000, by TAG Heuer.

4. Stainless steel 'Calibre de Cartier Chronograph' watch, \$13,200, by Cartier.



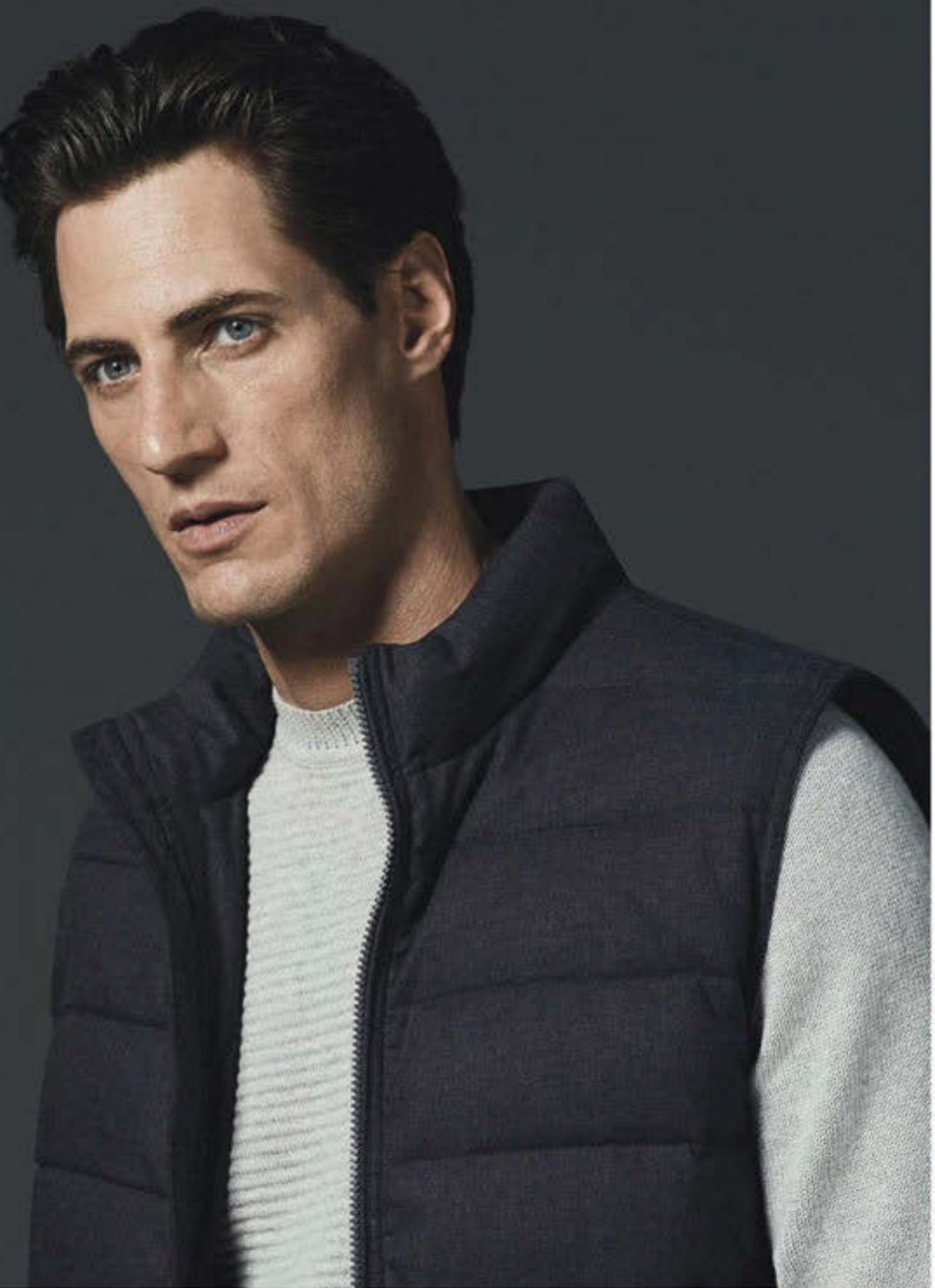
## TAKING TO THE STREETS ART

Spanning more than two years, 140 artists and 248 pages, *Surface* is the work of renowned photographer Søren Solkaer. This mammoth project saw the Danish snapper visit everywhere from Copenhagen to London to Miami, though Sydney has been chosen to launch the coffee-table book and an accompanying photographic exhibition, which will also stop in Melbourne before heading overseas. Featuring big-name street artists including Shepard Fairey, Parisian André Saraiva, Aussies ELK, Ears and Meggs, grab a copy online, and check out [artequity.com.au](http://artequity.com.au) for exhibition details. *Surface*, \$87.50, [Ginko Press](http://GinkoPress.com); [manic.com.au](http://manic.com.au)



PHOTOGRAPHS FROM  
 SØREN SOLKAER'S NEW  
 BOOK, *SURFACE*.

# TRENERY



[TRENERY.COM.AU](http://TRENERY.COM.AU)



the SOURCE

FRENCH ACTOR GERARD DEPARDIEU CLAIMS HE DRINKS 14 BOTTLES OF WINE A DAY. HE KICKS OFF WITH CHAMPAGNE BEFORE 10AM.

# HOW TO MAKE A TON OF CASH

(BY THE GUYS BEHIND PARANORMAL ACTIVITY)

FILM

The original *Paranormal Activity* made \$249m. Big deal, you may think – *Avatar*'s raked in nearly \$3bn. Well, *PA* cost just \$19,000 to make – meaning a 1.3million per cent return on investment.

No surprise they've been milking the franchise dry, and with the fifth (urgh) instalment completed and due to be released this year, we decided to chart some of the box-office's biggest returns.



A SCENE FROM MONTAGE OF HECK; MARINA AND THE DIAMONDS' NEW ALBUM, FROOT.



## MUSIC TO THE EARS

A FEW THINGS WE LIKE THE SOUND OF RIGHT NOW.



Forget the bros-and-singlets crowd – the Byron Bay Bluesfest is our pick of the festival calendar. Spanning five days, this year's line-up includes Hozier, Paolo Nutini, Xavier Rudd, Jurassic 5 and a whole bunch more. Camping is the way to go, so get some mates together, stock up the Esky and hit the road. You won't be disappointed. April 2-6; bluesfest.com.au



From the director of 2012's Rolling Stones doco *Crossfire Hurricane*, this new release provides a rare and intimate insight into Kurt Cobain, via a combination of animation, archival footage and interviews. Daughter Francis Bean Cobain is also on board as executive producer, and though there's no sign of Courtney Love on the credits, that's not such a bad thing. We think. *Montage of Heck* is in cinemas April 30



Since her 2010 debut, *The Family Jewels*, indie songstress Marina Diamandis's catchy, electro-influenced sounds have built a strong global following. Working under the stage name Marina and the Diamonds, she's now back with her third effort, which we've had on repeat here at GQ HQ. And we invite you to do the same. *Froot* is released April 3; marinaandthedimonds.com



FARAGE

[FARAGE.COM.AU](http://FARAGE.COM.AU)

ADVICE

# FIRST-WORLD DILEMMAS

LET TEAM GQ EASE YOUR TROUBLED MINDS. OR, AT THE LEAST, MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER THAN THIS BUNCH.

SOME OF MY MATES HAVE BEEN DEBATING THE MALE BRAZILIAN. YAY OR NAY?

NICHOLAS, VIA GQ.COM.AU

When it comes to grooming, men should still look like men, and although you might want to prune the hedges a little, there's something distinctly creepy about looking like you're yet to catch the puberty bus. It's just weird. Plus, do you have any idea how much waxing hurts? Down there? Here's a hint: an awful fucking lot.

LEATHER DOCUMENT HOLDER, \$765, BY TOD'S.

HELP, I'M AFTER A MAN-POUCH FOR WORK THAT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A PURSE.  
WILLIAM, VIA EMAIL.  
THIS FANCY GUY HAS JUST HIT STORES, IS BIG ENOUGH FOR ALL YOUR BOARDROOM ESSENTIALS, AND WON'T LOOK LIKE YOU ROBBED AN OLD LADY ON THE WAY TO THE OFFICE.

STYLE SHRINK

## WORK ISSUES

A GROUP OF US OFTEN GO FOR A DRINK AFTER WORK. LATELY I'VE NOTICED ONE GUY UNDOES HIS SHIRT AS HE RELAXES – AND AS THE DRINKS GO DOWN, SO DO HIS BUTTONS. HOW LOW IS TOO LOW?  
JOSH, VIA EMAIL.

Wow, he sounds like quite the show pony. A button or two is the way to go. Any lower, and unless you're reclining on a yacht somewhere off the French Riviera, you'll start to look suspect. There's nothing wrong with dressing down once you've clocked off, but no one wants a flash of nipple as you sip your pint.

MY BOSS STARTED FOLLOWING ME ON INSTAGRAM AND I RETURNED THE FAVOUR – DO I NOW HAVE TO LIKE HIS PHOTOS?  
CHRIS, VIA GQ.COM.AU

For the most part, yes. Crappy shots of what he had for brunch on the weekend are a must (Corn fritters? Yummo!), but not everything requires the same wild enthusiasm. Double tapping pics of his wife could land you in a spot of bother. Also, don't forget he'll now know where you went last night, who you hung out with, or that you had front-row seats to see Nickelback nine weeks ago. In which case, best collect your things and see yourself out the door. Now.

IN THE LAST QUARTER OF 2014, APPLE MADE \$65.9BN IN iPhone SALES ALONE – TWICE AS MUCH AS MICROSOFT'S TOTAL.



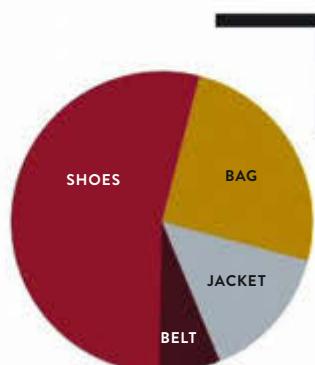
I'VE HEARD PEOPLE TALKING ABOUT THIS 'NORMCORE' TREND. WHAT'S THE DEAL?

PHIL, VIA GQ.COM.AU

Normal x hardcore = 'normcore'. Essentially, it's about dressing to not stand out. Think Steve Jobs, vintage '90s Jerry Seinfeld, the kind of stuff American Apparel has made a fortune flogging – jeans, sneakers, basic T-shirts. But normcore addicts will tell you it's not just a look, it's an attitude – a state of fashion Zen where you don't need to dress cool because you are cool, no matter what you wear. Yawn. We'll take a Prada suit any day of the week.

I ALREADY OWN A DECENT WATCH, SO WHEN IT COMES TO WARDROBE STAPLES, WHAT'S WORTH INVESTING MONEY IN?  
ANTHONY, VIA EMAIL.

According to our entirely scientific survey\*, a quality pair of shoes is the way to go.



\*OK, so we just asked around the office, but it's still true.

## FOR MORE ADVICE

...AND NOT JUST ON DECIPIERING FASHION LINGO, CONTACT THE GQ TEAM BY EMAILING [EDITORIAL@GQ.COM.AU](mailto:EDITORIAL@GQ.COM.AU), OR VIA FACEBOOK OR TWITTER. YOU COULD WIN AN XBOX 'ONE' PRIZE PACK, COMPLETE WITH CONSOLE, GAMES AND HEADSET – IT'S WORTH MORE THAN \$1000. [XBOX.COM](http://XBOX.COM)





BACHELOR PAD

## DAPPER DETAILS

TAKE CUES FROM YOUR FAVOURITE WARDROBE PIECES – CRISP WHITE SHIRTS, PLAID TAILORING AND SLICK ACCESSORIES – FOR A STYLISH INTERIOR.

### 1. ALUMINIUM/OAK 'RAIN' COAT STAND, \$1263, BY JARDAN.

A mirror, coat and umbrella stand in one, this makes for an always classy entrance.

[jordan.com.au](http://jordan.com.au)

### 2. 'NIMA' CUSHIONS, FROM \$204 EACH, BY E15 AT LIVING EDGE.

Ever wondered how to arrange a striking mix of cushions for your sofa? Let German brand E15 show you. [livingedge.com.au](http://livingedge.com.au)

### 3. ALUMINIUM 'ANALOG' CLOCK, \$190, BY HAY AT CULT.

Inspired by a classic barometer, this clock will keep you on time, while giving your walls a healthy dose of old-school cool.

[cultdesign.com.au](http://cultdesign.com.au)

### 4. CONCRETE 'JWDA' LAMP, POA, BY MENU AT DESIGN MODE INTERNATIONAL.

One part raw, two parts refined, this light will be a dashing addition to your

coffee table, bedside or desk.

[designmode.com.au](http://designmode.com.au)

### 5. GLASS 'STIL' TUMBLER, \$7.95, BY COUNTRY ROAD.

Proof that grid patterns have made their way onto practically every household object – and we couldn't be happier. Cheers.

[countryroad.com.au](http://countryroad.com.au)

### 6. WOOL 'BLACK AND WHITE' RUNNER, \$650, BY WORLD WEAVE.

A graphic runner adds your own distinct aesthetic to an

otherwise dreary hallway.

[worldweave.com.au](http://worldweave.com.au)

### 7. UPHOLSTERED 'PRINCE' ARMCHAIR, \$7689, BY MINOTTI AT DEDECE.

The work of Italian designer Rodolfo Dordoni, this armchair makes a decent statement, without being too noisy.

[dedece.com](http://dedece.com)

### 8. WOOD 'BLACK AND WHITE' CUPBOARD, \$8810; BY PORRO AT SPACE FURNITURE.

A handsome storage piece, designed by Swedish group Front, that's as practical as it is stylish. Not that we'd expect anything less from them.

[spacefurniture.com.au](http://spacefurniture.com.au)

### 9. BRASS 'TUBE' SPEAKER, \$249, BY LEFF AMSTERDAM AT TOP3.

Its subtle design might be low impact, but this little Bluetooth speaker lacks nothing in the sound stakes.

[top3.com.au](http://top3.com.au)





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[CALIBRE.COM.AU](http://CALIBRE.COM.AU)

## STYLE

# HARROLD'S – 30 YEARS OF HIGH FASHION

FOR ALL THE TALK OF ONLINE SHOPPING, THIS BRICKS-AND-MORTAR STORE IS STILL GOING STRONG, THREE DECADES ON.

Everyone likes to bang on about how retail is struggling right now – but Harrold's clearly never got the memo.

This year, the luxury fashion store marks the big 3-0 and is also set to launch a women's offshoot to its Sydney and Melbourne boutiques.

To celebrate – and for the secrets to its success – we spoke to general manager, Ross Poulakis.

**GQ: HOW HAS THE AUSTRALIAN MENSWEAR MARKET CHANGED SINCE YOU STARTED OUT?**

**ROSS POULAKIS:** We've become a major style destination, alongside the traditional heavyweights of Europe, America and Asia. Dressing matters a lot more here than it used to, and that means more experimentation

and better awareness of global trends.

**GQ: HAS THE GROWTH OF ONLINE SHOPPING AFFECTED YOU?**

**RP:** Yes, in a really positive way. It's been a great tool for globalising high fashion and has introduced shoppers to trends and brands they might not have known.

**GQ: SO BRICKS-AND-MORTAR OUTFITS ARE STILL PRETTY IMPORTANT?**

**RP:** Absolutely. Part of our success has been getting to know our customers: what brands they like, what their style is, as well as providing unrivalled personal service. And customers like being able to take home their purchases, there and then.

**GQ: WHAT ARE TODAY'S KEY TRENDS FOR MEN?**

**RP:** Sports luxe and soft tailoring are really big. Lanvin and Valentino



## TOP PICKS

1. LEATHER/COTTON 'VARSITY' JACKET, \$3290, BY MAISON MARTIN MARGIELA.

"Margiela gives this wardrobe staple a luxurious working over."

2. CANVAS/LEATHER BACKPACK, \$1490, BY SAINT LAURENT PARIS.

"This provides an understated take on a luxury accessory in the most striking print of the season."

3. WOOL 'FRENCH' SUIT, \$1990, BY HARROLD'S.

"A great addition to any wardrobe, in the colour of the moment. Pair with a white shirt and tie for work – or dress up for the races."

4. CANVAS 'ARENA' SNEAKERS, \$675, BY BALENCIAGA.

"One of the most sought-after sneakers we carry, and this season they were produced in my favourite colourway so far."

[harrolds.com.au](http://harrolds.com.au)



01  
02  
04  
03



are the frontrunners, but labels like Dries Van Noten have also been providing their own interpretations.

**GQ: YOUR TOP STYLE TIPS?**

**RP:** Never compromise on quality and tailoring. Also, always consider if you are buying something that suits

your personal style and that's going to last – or if it's just a passing trend.

**GQ: ANYTHING TO AVOID?**

**RP:** I approach every trend, season and style with an open mind, but the Jerry Seinfeld look – running sneakers, jeans, and blazer – is one I really can't get behind.

## FASHION FIX

A COUPLE OF STYLISH NEW RELEASES FOR YOUR RADAR.

Belgian designer Raf Simons took the reins of French fashion powerhouse Dior, following John Galliano's dramatic departure in 2011. Now, thanks to director Frédéric Tcheng (*Valentino: The Last Emperor*) we get a sneak peek inside the atelier, as the label's new creative director launches his first haute couture collection. For doco fans and fashionistas alike, it's a no-brainer. *Dior & I* is in cinemas March 26.



THE FILM

THE BOOK

Fashion genius or troubled bad boy? Perhaps a bit of both. This definitive biography of late designer Alexander McQueen follows his journey from working-class London into the alleged glitz and glam of the fashion world. What makes his 2010 death all the more tragic is not only that he achieved so much – but that he managed it all before 40. *Alexander McQueen* by Andrew Wilson, \$29.99, Simon & Schuster

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FLAVIO PARENTI AND EMILY BAKER.



EMILY BAKER WITH PERONI MODELS.

## PERONI AND GQ SUNSET DRINKS

The night before the lavish Portsea Polo, GQ editor in chief, Nick Smith, accompanied a select set of guests – including Italian actor Flavio Parenti and model Emily Baker – for a luxurious night of cruising (and Peroni) along the southern fringes of Port Melbourne, Victoria.



FOR MORE OF THE MOST GLAMOROUS EVENTS, FOLLOW  
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GQ EDITOR IN CHIEF, NICK SMITH.



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# BACK IN JACK

MEET THE NEW CONVERSE 'JACK PURCELL SIGNATURE'  
SNEAKERS – A PREMIUM TAKE ON A FASHION ICON.





For men – and women – who like their sartorial choices backed by a good story, not to mention some solid style-icon credentials, it's hard to look past the new Converse 'Jack Purcell Signature' sneakers.

The sneakers are the latest and most premium interpretation of the world's most recognisable kicks, which evolved from unlikely beginnings as an athletic shoe designed by world-champion badminton player Jack Purcell in 1935.

Characterised by their minimalist aesthetic and distinctive smile-shaped rubber strip across the toes, the sneakers soon became just as popular off court as they were on. Cult-classic status was cemented when fashionable rebels such as James Dean, Steve McQueen and Kurt Cobain were pictured wearing them.

The meticulously designed 'Jack Purcell Signature' sneakers stay true to the core attributes – including the much-loved aesthetic – of the original, while offering 18 new features.

Updates include 'airbags' in the forefoot and heel to make the sneakers more comfortable than ever, heavy-duty duck canvas uppers for added durability, and tweaks to the detailing on the heel, tongue and sole to create a more modern look.

The colour palette is kept simple with a choice of white or black canvas uppers (navy and red versions are set to be introduced later in the season) complemented by white rubber soles and toe caps.

Converse 'Jack Purcell Signature' sneakers are available at the flagship Melbourne Central Converse store, other select retailers and online from [converse.com.au](http://converse.com.au).

ABOVE: 1. THE CLASSIC CONVERSE JACK PURCELL LOGO ON THE HEEL.  
2. THE ICONIC CONVERSE JACK PURCELL RUBBER 'SMILE' ACROSS THE TOES.  
3. NIKE ZOOM AIR TECHNOLOGY PROVIDES IMPROVED COMFORT.



## SIGNATURE MOVES

Eighteen key features make the Converse 'Jack Purcell Signature' sneakers the best version of these iconic kicks to date. Here are a few of the highlights.

### MORE COMFORT

An OrthoLite footbed combined with Nike Zoom Air technology provides improved comfort over long periods of wear. This is enhanced by an open-weave forefoot area made with soft cotton and leather for breathability and mobility.

### BETTER DURABILITY

Inspired by US army specifications for strength and durability, the uppers and eye rows are made from tightly woven duck canvas.

### FORM AND FUNCTION

A herringbone sole provides added traction, while a streamlined toecap updates the silhouette. The winged tongue avoids bunching and adds durability at high-friction points to keep the tongue in place.

### NEW DETAILING

Premium modern detailing includes polished aluminium eyelets, higher moulded foxing (the rubber sidewall running between the sole and the upper) with canvas-backed friction tape, and a wider heel stay with reinforced stitching.

### CLASSIC LOOKS

The new 'Signature' label printed inside the upper comes from the Jack Purcell archive, and the embroidered tongue, two-piece rubber 'smile' across the toes and logo on the heel remain true to the original.

# GQ & A

“I’m the ill-ease that you feel when you walk into a crowded room. I’m the hot and cold flushes that confuse you when you’re already confused enough. I am the one that raises the whip to your already racing heart. I am the tightening of your chest, the snowballing worries that feel like they might become an avalanche and bury you in an instant. My friend, I am the obsessive and the compulsive. I’m the voice... you know the one.”

The scene is scripted. It’s a 2013 community service ad for Beyond Blue. But the casting is eerily true. Ben Mendelsohn is Anxiety. Though his inky glare and whiplash sneer have been part of Australia’s cultural firmament for three decades, the wider world is only now waking up to this cold fact.

At the ripe age of 45, Mendelsohn is a new sensation on film’s international stage. He’s sassing Batman in *The Dark Knight Rises*; he’s sweating on Brad Pitt in *Killing Them Softly*; he’s simpering for Ridley Scott in *Exodus: Gods and Kings*. After years on the fringes, Mendelsohn’s creep is now top of the heap.

This curious twist in the tale is surprising, and yet not. Mendelsohn’s talent has long been apparent. The AFI [Australian Film Institute] first acknowledged him as one of our best, aged only 17, for his snickering, delinquent heart-

throb in 1987’s *The Year My Voice Broke*. Yet the next time the academy gave him a prize it was 2010 – and they were hailing him as the malevolent wolf-pack leader in the thriller *Animal Kingdom*. In 23 odd years, Mendelsohn’s star had shone, burst, flickered and voyaged to the dark side of the moon.

Here, in 2015, it’s shining brighter than ever, with several films that see him working with the industry’s best actors and directors. There’s the lead in *Mississippi Grind* opposite Ryan Reynolds, a key role in new best mate Ryan Gosling’s directorial debut, *Lost River*, a juicy gig in Kevin Macdonald’s *Black Sea* with Jude Law, and a triumphant return to TV in Netflix’s hotly-anticipated *Bloodline*.

It’s been a long, winding and often low road to the top – with years spent walking a razor’s edge between charm and a sense of smarm. But for all the chaotic, hazy innuendo entangled in his life’s sphere, truth was lost behind the enigma. Only recently has Mendelsohn emerged from the shadows. Maybe that was always the plan.

**GQ:** You’re riding high in Hollywood. Is this run of success down to luck, fate or hard graft?

**Ben Mendelsohn:** All of it... and *Animal Kingdom*, I got lucky with that one. Still, when luck comes, you have to do the work then keep things rolling along. Now

HIS SHUFFLING  
GAIT AND  
LANGUID  
SPEECH POINT  
TO A LIFE  
THAT’S TAKEN  
SOME DARK  
DETOURS. BUT  
NEW, CLEANER  
ADVENTURES  
ABOUND –  
AS AMERICA  
FURTHER  
EMBRACES  
THE UNIQUE  
CHARMS OF  
THIS BRILLIANT  
AUSSIE ACTOR.

WORDS ANGUS FONTAINE





is the best time of my career. I'm happier going to work than I have been for a long time. But it's only people outside Australia who are discovering me. In Australia, I've been around forever – a whole generation has grown up with me.

**GQ:** Director David Michôd says you read *Animal Kingdom*'s script as if "performing microsurgery".

**BM:** I was 19 when the Walsh Street shootings happened in Melbourne and I remember it as a huge deal. David's script made me stop and try to make sense of the whole 'who, what and why' of the story. *Animal Kingdom* focused on an intricate family dynamic. David gave me the scenes on paper but I had to get the story straight in my mind in order to taper everything I knew down into one coherent package of movements – voices, actions and feelings for [character] Pope.

**GQ:** You've since played a procession of psychos, slimeballs and shitheels. Is this a stereotype you've created, or something others see in you?

**BM:** It's only lately I've been that guy. Back in the day, people thought I was a sweet, lovelorn boy with big googly eyes – always stammering in the presence of females. I'd like to think I can turn my hand to a lot of different characters with panache. After 30 years of being an actor, I'd be a mug if I couldn't.

**GQ:** We first saw you in the mid-80s. By then your parents were divorced, you'd lived in four countries, and been expelled from a boarding school for arson. Was acting an escape?

**BM:** Definitely. I remember early on, I was 14 or 15, already living out of home and doing [TV series] *The Henderson Kids*. I was upset in this period; acting was the only good thing in my life and even though I knew I had bits that were OK, I also realised I had plenty left to learn. The fear that acting was about to get snuffed out for good was the spark for me. I haven't stopped chasing it since.

**GQ:** *The Year My Voice Broke* (1987) and *The Big Steal* (1990) made you a star. But thereafter you seemed to live on the ragged edge of alleged addiction and unemployment. What happened?

**BM:** After about 15 years of pretty steady work, I had three years of nothing [2002-2005] – I couldn't win a chook raffle, let alone a role. Looking back, they were lean work years but good life years – a weird time, not a bad time. I had a girlfriend I was living with in Sydney, and I'd take her dog out and I'd watch a lot of footy. But it went on too long. I didn't go on the rock'n'roll [dole] – I'd been on it in my early twenties but it didn't feel right in my thirties. But I did think I was going to quit acting and drive a delivery truck or something.

**GQ:** Can those idle times be as valuable to an actor as the productive periods?

**BM:** It's all grist for the mill. Look, it's a cliché, but if bad times help you remember the good times, they're worthwhile. Back then I was broke and a bit lost, but I was living in the moment. It reminds me how good I've got it now.

**GQ:** Are you the type of bloke for whom it's dangerous to spend too much time in your own head?

**BM:** I've spent a lot of time on my own and I'm comfortable with it. The way I grew up was reasonably itinerant. We lived in the US, Germany and UK between stays in Melbourne, and it's good for a man to have periods of reflection – to take stock and think about where you are and what to do. But there also comes a time when you have to get on with it – actors need to act, me especially. Some actors can use idle time to write their own stuff but I'm in the older mould of the 'jobbing actor'.

**GQ:** You married British writer Emma Forrest in 2012 and recently became a father again.\* Has that focused your energy for the better?

**BM:** It's definitely focused my life. Now I've got to make sure

my family is alright, that I can provide for them, protect them. Going out and doing all the wild, crazy shit... I had to do it at the time but I couldn't do it forever. And even when I was doing all that, deep down I knew I wanted to settle down and have a family.

**GQ:** Did your hedonistic, youthful ways ever put a handbrake on your ability to work?

**BM:** That's a hard question to answer. Even when I was living those years, I turned up to work rain, hail or shine and gave it my best shot. Whatever background stuff was going on I brought with me, for better or worse. There's nowhere to hide on screen, so all I can say is I was focused on the job when I was at work.

**GQ:** Did you feel a responsibility as an actor to live to extremes, to push life to its limits for the sake of the work?

**BM:** Not particularly. The guys I looked up to – Clint Eastwood, Robert De Niro, Marlon Brando, John Wayne – I admired them as actors but also because they'd been through a thing or three. There's no formula to acting other than striving to bring the scenes to life. The key ingredient is: you can be unbelievably great, you can be spectacularly shit – just don't be boring.

**GQ:** In recent years you've worked with some of the modern era's leading men. Who have you most enjoyed time with?

**BM:** The two Ryans – Gosling and Reynolds. They're guys that I would go to the wall for. Ryan Reynolds has an unbelievably quick wit – the fastest gun with a pun I've ever met. Gosling has a heart the size of the

Titanic. It doesn't translate as an anecdote, but the man is a titan – a red-blooded, sweet-natured human being and an actor who is always exploring. Filming *Slow West* in New Zealand recently, I got a couple of days with Michael Fassbender and found him to be a truly fearless actor. Then there's Hugh Jackman, maybe the best movie star Australia has ever produced. These guys are the best. And you know what? The actors that are really, really good tend to be really, really decent people. It's weird. They don't play games. They get it.

**GQ:** Are film directors a different breed? You've worked with some true heavyweights.

**BM:** Great directors are chilled men who run calm sets. It doesn't seem to matter what you're filming, for all the big names in the cast and the millions spent on production values, you're so completely at ease in their world that it's relaxing. With epic directors like Ridley [Scott] and Christopher [Nolan], that's not what you expect, but the truth is there's less noise, less hype. It's calm in the eye of the hurricane.

**GQ:** Is there a lesson attached?

**BM:** I often think about what a stewardess said to me years ago, 'I love first class and I love economy, it's in between where you get the problems. They're

**“DOING ALL THE WILD, CRAZY SHIT... I HAD TO DO IT AT THE TIME, BUT I COULDN'T DO IT FOREVER.”**

the people trying to prove something.' It's the same with actors and film people.

**GQ: So are you riding high in first class or still back in cattle class?**

**BM:** [Laughs] Economy, but I've scored some lucky upgrades lately.

**GQ: Stories abound of your ability to manufacture unease among fellow cast members. Is the set there to be manipulated?**

**BM:** I believe you only get one shot at a scene. OK, you might get a few takes and a few different angles but basically, you have that day, that scene, that moment to nail it. It doesn't matter what else is going on in your life – you might be sick or hung-over or high – but you've got to get it done the best way possible, there and then. So, if the mood isn't quite right, I do what I have to do and when they call 'action', I take no prisoners because ultimately my job is to hit the mark and make the scene the best it can be. I've got to do that or what's the fucking point?

**GQ: For your sake or the film?**

**BM:** The film is always the bigger picture – actors are secondary. The film trumps the performances; the film trumps everything. But I'll often see something bothering another actor – I can smell fear, see agitation, sense isolation. It's a need to have someone on their side. So I try to support them. That's the bigger picture as well. Sure, you have to look after your own side of the fence, but not at the expense of anyone else because that drags down the quality of the whole [thing]. So the basic culture of actors is to try to help each other.

**GQ: You worked with Sir Anthony Hopkins in *The Efficiency Expert*, just after he'd won the 1991 Oscar**

for *The Silence of the Lambs*. What did you learn?

**BM:** Anthony was very graceful, fluid and quick. He told me: 'Don't push, let the scene come to you – everything you need to act is inside you.' You will come to a time in your life where you know what you're doing and you can just go out there and do it.

**GQ: Your father is an eminent scientist. Away from acting, how big an influence has he been?**

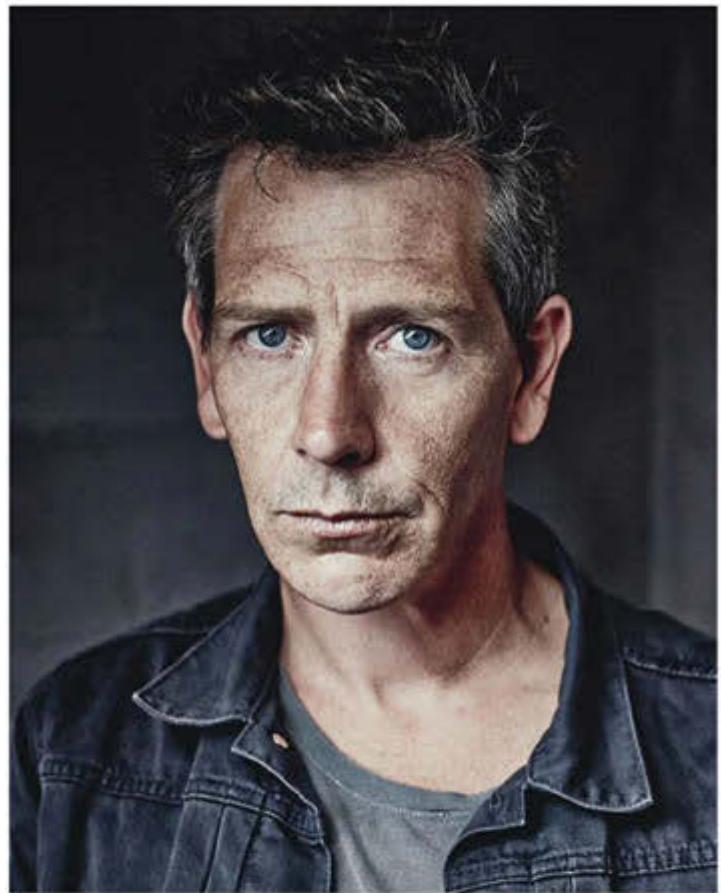
**BM:** Dad is a brain researcher but he loves to muck around and tell stories and, basically, act. He's a man who investigates things and he can sit and study for days on end. I haven't got that depth of focus but he did gift me an inquiring mind... actually it's weird talking about this, I'm suddenly very emotional. I realise what my father taught me was that if you want to master something you've got to put in the time. Focus your energies and you might just come up with something. That's certainly what I did on *Animal Kingdom*.

**GQ: What do you enjoy most about acting?**

**BM:** People get lost in it. People connect with it. People take bits of an actor's performance away and it helps them, reappearing in their minds when they need it. Acting can touch people deeply and mean something very personal. When that happens it's great, but that's up to the viewer, not the maker.

**GQ: After getting your start in TV, you're this month returning to the small screen, in *Bloodline* for Netflix. Why?**

**BM:** Early on, TV was as big an influence for me as film. I loved *Cop Shop* and *Prisoner* and learnt a lot from those shows: stuff like 'don't lag on your mates'. So it's remarkably satisfying to work in this golden age of box-set TV where a series like *Bloodline* can be viewed in one sitting. *Bloodline* is about a working-class family called the Rayburns who bought a little inn in the Florida Keys and became pillars of that society. But right from



## “RYAN GOSLING HAS A HEART THE SIZE OF THE TITANIC.”

the first moment you know what the Rayburns really do and what they do is pretty off – the series tells you how and why they do it.

**GQ: What are your passions away from acting?**

**BM:** I'm a rugby league nut and have been a Melbourne Storm fanatic since the beginning. It's daggy but true – that team kept me believing and taught me to keep going and win, lose or draw, to pick yourself up and go again. I also listen to a lot of music and watch a lot of films, but really what I do is act and that's all I do that's serious. Otherwise, I just roll along doing normal stuff – washing clothes, playing backgammon. Simple, mundane, but glorious.

**GQ: When you look back at your career, what are you proudest of?**

**BM:** [Long pause] *The Big Steal*. People love that film and Danny's a sweet guy. It was a special time – I was young and it was all opening up, starting to happen.

**GQ: And has life turned out as you thought it would?**

**BM:** Not at all. I knew I'd hit the major destinations but I didn't expect the detours. I thought life was a straight trip from Melbourne to Sydney but I went via Wagga Wagga and the 'black stump'. Life's full of bittersweet surprises – it's never the way you want it to be. But if you plug along, things turn out alright. ■

*Bloodline* debuts this month on Netflix.

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MAX SPEED: 263 KM/H - 0-100 KM/H: 5.6 SECS - FUEL CONSUMPTION (COMBINED): 9.6 L/100 KM\*

\*As per Australian Design Rule (ADR) 81/02.

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DAN ROOKWOOD



# Dan rallies against 'Stuffocation'

## DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT I OFTEN FEEL LIKE MY HEAD MIGHT EXPLODE.

I have too many windows open on the desktop of my life – too many programs running at once. As a result, my operating system is sluggish. Without the bandwidth to cope, my mind occasionally freezes – the mental equivalent of the spinning wheel of death.

In today's super-fast 4G society, it's increasingly difficult to completely shut down. Life is all clutter and white noise, an incessant background hum of low-level stress. It's bad for our sense of equilibrium; we end up distracted by everything, and focusing on nothing. Our concentration is constantly interr... Sorry, where was I?

I have two phones – one for work, one for personal use. Messages fire in from all angles on both: texts, Whatsapp, Gmail, work email, iMessage, Skype, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram. It's an unrelenting bombardment – and yet when the battery dies, I get withdrawal symptoms.

Many of us are addicted to our Swiss Army knife-like smartphones, stroking them every waking minute from when we boot up in the morning to logging off at night.

If you check email every five minutes, you're doing so 200 times a day. According to cognitive neuroscientist Dr Daniel Levitin, author of *The Organised Mind: Thinking Straight in the Age of Information Overload*, we processed five times as much information every day in 2011 as we did in 1986. The book contains plenty of other such facts, but I've forgotten them.

In short, we've reached saturation point. We need to self-blinder, to control the daily deluge of infomania or risk burnout and creativity depletion. Daydreaming helps recalibrate and restore the brain – it gives us time to think. The answers to life's big questions tend not to occur to the man who ponders them for all of 30 seconds before checking his phone again.

We're told that the ability to juggle things is the secret to high productivity (mostly by women who are so much better at it than us) but the opposite is often true. Multi-tasking is multi-taxing. It increases the production of stress hormone cortisol, which can over-stimulate the brain, causing mental fog.

So when my wife calls (like she did at the end of paragraph two) and asks if we can have dinner with friends a week on Thursday, what our Apple password is or what we should buy her mum for her birthday, I can scarcely muster a coherent reply. This isn't because I'm an awful human being, rather because I'm suffering from a recognised and not-at-all-made-up psychological condition called decision fatigue.

## DAN LOVES...



### BLENDING

I RECEIVED NOT ONE, NOT TWO, BUT THREE BULLETS OVER CHRISTMAS. CLEARLY THE NUTRIBULLET (TO GIVE IT ITS FULL NAME) WAS 2014'S MUST-GIFT AMONG MY SOCIAL AND FAMILY CIRCLES. I RE-GIFTED TWO OF THEM BUT THANKS TO THE ONE I KEPT, I'VE SO FAR MANAGED TO MAINTAIN MY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION TO START EACH DAY OF 2015 WITH A BLITZED VITAMIN BLAST OF FRESH FRUIT AND/OR VEGIES. AND I FEEL BULLETPROOF FOR IT. ALSO QUITE SMUG. [BUYTHEBULLET.COM.AU](http://BUYTHEBULLET.COM.AU)

Being presented with too many decisions inhibits your ability to make them, and this gets worse as the day goes on – as those paralysed by choice in the ready-meal aisle, en route home at 9pm, will appreciate.

Decision fatigue is the reason many successful people – Albert Einstein, Mark Zuckerberg, Barack Obama – stick (or stuck) to a daily uniform. "You'll see I only wear grey or blue suits," said the President in 2012. "I'm trying to pare down decisions. I don't want to make decisions about what I'm eating or wearing. Because I have too many other decisions to make." Obama is too busy picking fights with North Korea to worry about whether *this* pocket square goes with *that* tie.

My own wardrobe is a neat metaphor for my life: a jumbled mess. It needs streamlining. I waste time and mental energy weighing up what to wear each morning. The reason is partly because, according to *The Wall Street Journal*, we only regularly wear 20 per cent of what we own. Which means the vast majority of our cupboards are crammed with clutter.

So answer the following questions (either for you or on behalf of your other half). When you open your wardrobe, despite being full of clothes, is there nothing to wear? Do you use all the things you own, or are there trousers you haven't touched in more than a year? Can you access everything, or is it so rammed you only wear what you can a) see, and b) pull out?

It could be that you are suffering from the ultimate #firstworldproblem: 'Stuffocation'. Coined by writer James Wallman, it's also the title of his new book on how to live more with less. The basic premise is, if you de-choke your life by getting rid of stuff, you'll be happier and less stressed.

Wallman is full of throwaway advice. He suggests, for example, operating a 'One in, One out' policy – getting rid of one item when you buy a new one. Or there's the 'Reverse Hanger' method – put all your hangers facing the same direction and if you wear something, when you put it back in the wardrobe, hang it facing the other way. At the end of a month, you'll know what you actually use. And if your partner's wardrobe is overspilling, play the 'Did You Miss It?' game. Hide, say, a shirt, and if the other person does not notice it missing for a set time period, he or she clearly doesn't need it. (Good luck with that one.)

I power-read Wallman's book on a long-haul flight – eight blissful hours offline with no pings or buzzes or offers of penile enhancement. By the time I landed I was all psyched up with ruthless zeal to de-stuffocate the hell out of my life. I started with my wardrobe. (Seven bin bags to Vinnies.) On to my desk. (Filled four of my neighbours' recycling crates.) Then my email. (I unsubscribed from 22 e-newsletters.) Among the things I discovered in this process were: my favourite Common Projects trainers I thought I'd lost, and a sizeable tax rebate cheque from two years ago.

Most importantly, I found an unfamiliar but welcome sense of order, control and space – physical and mental. At least until next week when it all goes tits up again. ■

# GIBSON



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MEG MASON



# Meg upgrades the marital privacy settings

**I HARDLY EVER SEE THE HUSBANDS IN OUR MARRIED-PERSON FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE.** But because I see the wives so much, I'm always across what the boys are up to. Work, homelife, how X spent \$900 on a stand-up paddleboard he'll never use, or how Y had a weird thing on his, ah, little Y (that turned out to be nothing, but he went to pieces about it).

So you know, highly-personal relationship intel is the currency of female friendships. It's what we trade; it's what we value. And in special cases – hairdressers, comedians, lady Uber drivers and SheQ columnists – it's what we workshop with semi-strangers while making AUDs.

Which is rarely a problem, until the other week, when I bumped into one of the husbands doing the big Saturday shop. All was fine, until, on saying our goodbyes, I was all, "Oh and hey Bubs, good luck with the job hunting. That boss of yours sounds like a real dick."

A look of panicked realisation flickered across his face. And since his wife wasn't there to shoot me a 'shut-the-fuck-up' stare, it took me a moment to realise none of this was public knowledge. I wasn't meant to know about the job-hunting, his jagweed boss, or the fact his wife calls him Bubs out of the house (and certainly never at the local deli counter).

I started back-pedalling with the ferocity of a reverse Tour de France time trial, but he was already out the automatic doors and off home in search of the leak: Mrs Bubs. There she'd have been, sitting comfy, reading the papers, no idea she was about to get done for high treason. Even worse, the weekly shop she'd been waiting for was still sat in a trolley.

As it happened, earlier the same week I'd interviewed a digital security expert as part of my sideline as a serious journalist (I know. Me neither. But I have a dictaphone and a stick-on moustache and everything). He and I were discussing whether social media spells the end of privacy, and if we should all accept the fact

## MEG LOVES



VINOMOFO

AS LONG AS YOU DON'T MIND THE DAILY HAMMERING IT GIVES YOUR INBOX, THERE'S SOME CRACKING WINE DEALS TO BE HAD FROM VINOMOFO, A LOCALLY-OWNED WINE CO-OP WITH PLEASINGLY HIPSTER TOP NOTES. [VINOMOFO.COM](http://VINOMOFO.COM)

Mark Zuckerberg owns our unborn children and all likenesses thereof.

According to this well-credentialed chap, privacy isn't dead (whoever says so would only like that to be true because they own Facebook), but it's no longer a given. Most of us wrongly believe that what we put out on the computerweb is private by default, and public when we choose to make it so.

Actually it's the opposite – public by default but private if you take a week of annual leave to painstakingly go through each platform and change the settings (which Zuckerberg *et al* know we'll never do because we're too busy scanning, then commenting, on our newsfeeds.)

My point is, the same should apply for spousal privacy settings. Sorry gents. Unless you take time to read through your partner's terms and conditions, you can't assume any of your personal data is protected. As far as we're concerned, when you signed up to our service, your hopes, dreams and that time you threw up on the bus to Year 6 camp became proprietary information... to be used at our discretion. You're powerless, really, against BWD (Big Wife Data).

That said, I came away from the supermarket somewhat chastened, and not only because Mrs Bubs called me while I was still paying to try and put some retroactive privacy measures in place (a futile response, I thought, akin to trying to unswipe-right on Tinder).

They'd clearly had a barney and I felt terrible for my role in their now-rubbish Saturday, as well as the fact I'm constantly guilty of Zuckerberging the Masonator. I know that if he did the same and told his friends about my one or two teensy faults, I'd be furious to the point of what comedian Mike Birbiglia calls "divorce face".

He never would, anyway, and if he and I really are the private gang-of-two I imagine us to be, why am I hawking his wares in the lady marketplace? That's right, confronting, isn't it reader? Or more accurately, girlfriend of reader who is having this read out loud to her, as a form of reproach. Perhaps we ought to start giving less away, and trying harder at the sort of emotional fidelity we personally demand.

It won't be easy, especially next time you find yourself casting about for small talk in the back of an Uber, or your (my) next column is due and you (I) run out of neutral material at 62 words. Far out, I'm going to have to turn in some serious journalism instead. And I've somehow misplaced my moustache. ■





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# TIME TO MAKE FREE SPEECH EXACTLY THAT



**B**y next year, one per cent of the world's population will own more wealth than the poorest 50 per cent. While you calculate exactly how few (and many) people that is, here's another stat: the top 80 earners in the world have, and make, more money than the poorest three-and-a-half billion. That. Is. Bonkers.

You might be wondering if you're one of the 80. I'm pretty sure you're not. They're far more likely to read magazines like *Thoroughbred Fancier*, *Today's Yachtsman* and *Fabergé Egg Digest*. If you're still wondering, just ask yourself these simple aeronautical-related questions: Have you been inside a private jet? Do you own, or have access to, a private jet? Are you reading this in a private jet right now?

If you answered 'no' to those questions, you're not alone. If you answered 'yes', don't worry. This isn't a rant against private jet-bound thoroughbred-fancying sailors with a \$40,000-a-day egg budget. I have no problem with the super wealthy. In fact, one day I hope to befriend a few for kicks.

While Australia may not be the worst offender when it comes to income inequality, it's getting there. In 1990, the CEO to worker pay ratio was 18:1. Today, it's 93:1. And as our economy enriches the highest earners, we're told the essential tools of economic mobility (education and health care) are to receive far less funding – so becoming less and less accessible.

The problem is, that for a really long time, we've been telling stories about how we built a system where everyone has an equal shot at success and happiness. It's not quite as direct as ancient Greek democracy – where everyone showed up to help decide everything – but the trusty old Westminster system we have is pretty fair. And yet, whichever way you slice the data, those same stories are becoming fairytales.

I'd say we genuinely believe that while money should mean the power to buy lots of stuff, it shouldn't necessarily mean political power; we'd like to think our vote is the same as a billionaire's, and if enough of us feel a certain way, we will prevail. But you don't need to look at the figures for too long before you get the sinking feeling it's just not the case.

But what can we do? We don't control the markets, we don't control economies and we clearly don't control all the capital (no, that's 80 dudes who can visit their money in the Caymans or Luxembourg whenever they like). However, we can write the rules of our democracy to ensure that our stories about a fair system have a system to match.

In Australia, we currently fund election campaigns to the tune of more than 20 million taxpayer dollars for each of the major parties.

They then seek donations from private citizens, businesses and unions. It should be one or the other. If you accept public funding for your election campaign, you should have to forgo private donations. And if you choose to rely on private donations, you shouldn't get the people's money as well – whether it's the ALP's biggest donor, China-based Zi Chun Wang, or the UK's Lord Ashcroft for the Liberals, and a good bet for a knighthood.

If no billionaire, union or special interest group funded a politician's campaign, when elected, that politician wouldn't owe anyone any favours. In fact, their only donors would be the voters, and the only favours owed would be doing what they said they would (and trying really hard not to screw everything up – sounds impossible, I know).

There are those who say that political donations are a form of free speech but personally, I don't buy it. Largely because when it comes to 'free' speech you shouldn't have to buy it. If you want to have free speech, post something on Facebook, send a tweet, join a protest, write a letter to the editor or just shout it from a rooftop. Free speech is a thing that everyone is meant to have. When you have to pay for it, it's something else.

And it's certainly something else when, as is the case, the largest donors to political parties give to both sides. That's not something you do to help your ideas win the day. It's something you do so that no matter who wins, they'll pick up the phone when you call. That's a level of power and influence that comes easy to the 80, but the three-and-a-half billion will never have. ■

CHARLIE LOVES

THE MEMORY PALACE

THAT'S RIGHT. THERE ARE PODCASTS ON THE INTERNET THAT AREN'T SERIAL. THE MEMORY PALACE TELLS SOME OF HISTORY'S MOST FASCINATING FORGOTTEN STORIES... IN ABOUT SIX MINUTES. IT'S LIKE FLICKING THROUGH SCATTERED PHOTOS IN A LONG-GONE RELATIVE'S ATTIC. AND THE HOST, NATE DIMEO, IS EXACTLY WHY PODCASTS ARE BETTER THAN RADIO.

IN 1990, THE CEO TO WORKER PAY RATIO WAS 18:1. TODAY, IT'S 93:1.



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# MOTOR

## MERCEDES GLA 45 AMG

The GLA 45 AMG sits on the razor's edge between subcompact SUV and truly mad, boy-racer hot hatch. Thrilling, even if it doesn't always make sense (which seems to be the point) and a lesson in how bonkers this segment can be.

**SPECS: 2.0L TURBO**

**4-CYLINDER, 265kW/450Nm,  
4.8s 0-100KM/H, AWD**

**PRICE: \$80,430**

**AVAILABLE: NOW**



## (SMALL) **GAME HUNTERS**

COMPACT SUVS ARE DRIVING THE AUSTRALIAN CAR MARKET LIKE NEVER BEFORE. SO JUMP IN, BUCKLE UP AND TAKE ONE FOR A SPIN.

**T**ate last year, Mercedes did a strange thing at Sandown Raceway, south of Melbourne. For the leading prestige German, being trackside is as normal as *currywurst*. But it wasn't the setting that raised eyebrows, it was the car – launching a compact SUV. At a racetrack.

Barely a year ago, debuting any SUV at a power circuit would have been PR suicide. Everything crap about soft-roaders – the wallowy body roll, the aerodynamics, the 'soccer mom' appeal, the ironic absence of sportiness – would be under the microscope. But Mercedes' GLA 45 AMG is not a traditional SUV. Instead, it is mad, and like a raging virus, its madness is infectious. In truth, it's barely an SUV. Rather, a super-hot crossover turbo four-pot, the third (and arguably the best) vehicle in the marque's hardcore A45 AMG arsenal – joining the very good A45 AMG, a hot hatch, and the CLA 45 AMG, a compact luxury sedan.

Yes, it possesses a 421-litre boot and useful back seat, but its real priorities are revealed by the Recaro seats and 2.0L engine note that barks like *blitzkrieg* on each gearshift. This is a car to make you detour unnecessarily along winding roads – a drive that makes pupils dilate as you swear and laugh, all at once.

It's taken a while, but now is the time of the non-embarrassing subcompact SUV. And Australians loves SUVs – the segment equating to a third of all 2014 cars sales, up 19,000 to 352,347 in a shrinking market.

Every manufacturer worth its salt has been pouring resources

into SUV development since before the surprisingly lithe, 2.2-tonne Cayenne saved Porsche. In light of that success, its follow-up Macan, launched in May 2014, was a no-brainer. It was billed as the first compact sportscar of the SUV segment, though Audi, whose RS Q3 – at \$82,000 – pipped them by a few months, might dispute that.

Meanwhile, the Range Rover Evoque has been kicking around (not around racetracks, *dabbing*) since 2011. Said to be co-designed by Posh Spice, a breathtaking piece of marketing chutzpah, it was lovely, even if Becks was pride-bound never to drive one. Now, the floodgates have opened. And whether you're after a charismatic city SUV that won't recruit you, by default, for a low-grade commercial, or you prefer a compact ride with off-road chops, options abound.

Fiat has spun its cheap, retro and super-popular 500 into the 500X, a sweet-looking baby SUV. It shares a platform, engines and transmission with the forthcoming Jeep Renegade, which will have an option of a 'Trailhawk' badge (Jeepspeak for genuine off-road compatibility).

And Audi has committed to adding a Q1 to its range to sit beneath the Q3, a car that will share its bone structure with VW's cheap, micro crossover, the Taigun. While they baulked at bringing the Taigun to Australia, premium brands see compact and crossover SUVs as a profitable toehold into China, modern motoring's El Dorado.

So there it is – the world's gone mental for shrinking SUVs, Mercedes is perfectly sane for launching one at a former V8 Supercar circuit, and you're no longer mad for buying one.



## LEXUS NX

Keenly priced, Lexus's long-awaited downsized SUV has two versions – the NX300h hybrid and NX200t, the latter with a brand new, 175kW/350Nm 2.0L four-cylinder turbo petrol engine. Festooned with tech at the entry price, what the hybrid loses in dynamic buzz, the pure petrol model should give back. Oh, and it has Willem Dafoe's cheekbones.

**SPECS: 3-DOOR, 4-CYL, 2.0L TURBO PETROL, 177kW/340Nm, 7.6s 0-100KM/H, 7.8L/100KM, SPORTS AUTO, 4X4 ON DEMAND**

**PRICE: FROM \$49,995**

**AVAILABLE: NOW**





## AUSSIES LOVE SUVs – THE SEGMENT EQUATING TO A THIRD OF ALL 2014 CAR SALES.

### 1. JEEP RENEGADE

Built in Italy – on the same platform as Fiat's 500X, which shares no mechanics with the cutesy 500 – the bro-brand's first city-sized SUV stands out in the tiny segment by being 4WD only. 'Trailhawk' rated top-spec models should have decent off-road capacity, while base versions may be priced as cheaply as \$20,000.

**SPECS: 1.6L, 81kW/152Nm, FOUR CYLINDER WILL BE STANDARD.**

**PRICE: APPROX. \$20,000**

**AVAILABLE: LATE 2015**

### 2. HONDA HR-V

Based on the Jazz, Honda's sweet-looking compact has hidden rear door handles to confuse your grandmother, and independent emergency braking to stop you crashing into someone else. Prices begin at a touch under \$30,000.

**SPECS: 1.8L, 4CYL, FWD, 105kW, 172Nm, 6.6L/100KM**

**PRICE: APPROX. \$28,000**

**AVAILABLE: NOW**

### 3. NISSAN JUKE

The clever Qashqai is a winner in the compact category – and its five-door sibling, the Juke, punches above its weight in the subcompact segment. With a double shot of quirkiness (those buggy, Christopher Monckton eyes), a facelifted version, exaggerating its proportions even more, is due by winter.

**SPECS: 4CYL, 1.6L PETROL, 86kW, 158Nm, FWD, MANUAL, 6.0L/100KM**

**PRICE: \$22,090**

**AVAILABLE: NOW**

### 4. FIAT 500X

Fiat reportedly expects this 'lil number – styled, sensibly, to match the wildly popular Fiat 500 – to steal five per cent of the total SUV market. Several engines were presented at its Italian launch, from a 1.4L, 103kW/230Nm turbo to a 2.0L, 103kW/350Nm diesel. By any length, it'll be lady-pleasing.

**SPECS: TBC**

**PRICE: APPROX. \$25,000**

**AVAILABLE: MIDYEAR**

1



2



3



4



# PORSCHE 911 GT3

Some (lucky) gents will purchase the wild-looking, and even wilder driving, Porsche 911 GT3 to use on public roads. Pity – because it's on the track that this ferocious, race-spec newcomer comes alive. Wider, lower and lighter than the already ridiculous car it replaces, this \$293,600 beast rips up a raceway with ease, and makes a 'mere' 911 Carrera S seem almost pedestrian. So, buy one, then purchase a matching helmet.

## INTERIOR

It's fairly standard 911 fare – classy yet refined – except for the whopping great roll cage and six-point racing harness (though there's a normal seatbelt, too, for when you pop out to get milk). The Alcantara steering wheel, meanwhile, is decidedly different from lesser Porsches, and adds exactly the right, racy feel.

## DRIVING

It's all about good old-fashioned mechanical grip, rather than modern elec-trickery. Specially developed Michelin tyres and enough aero downforce combine for outrageous road holding, and the 'Porsche Stability Management' is there to help too. Sadly you can't have a manual gearbox anymore, but that's mainly because you'd never be able to change gears fast enough on your own.

## ENGINE

The 911's 3.8-litre, flat six-cylinder engine has been given a gram-by-gram, widget-by-widget, going over, reducing weight by 25kg while unleashing more power than ever – 350kW and 440Nm – hitting a top speed of 315km/h and 0-100km/h in 3.5 seconds. It's rear-wheel drive, of course, but does get subtle rear-wheel steering, just to help it tuck into corners. Clever.



"IF A NORMAL PORSCHE 911 ISN'T SHOWY ENOUGH, YOU REALLY NEED THE GT3. AND SOME DRIVING LESSONS. AND A HELMET. AND BETTER LIFE INSURANCE."

STEPHEN CORBY,  
GQ AUSTRALIA

## STYLING

Porsche is usually the master of understatement, so the designers must have been on the schnapps when they came up with this dashing brute. The rear wing is functional, at least at 200km/h, even if it looks a bit aftermarket, while the air-vented front splitter and bonnet-breathing hole make your presence known in someone's rear-view mirror. It looks, and is, mean and mental.

## PRICE/ DELIVERY

Porsche Australia was given 40 GT3s to sell from February this year, at \$293,600 each, and they're all gone. Fear not, there'll be another 40 to come in 2016, so be sure to get your hand up nice and early.



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THE UPDATE



NEWCOMER



## THE BMW 2 SERIES

BMW's sexy and sleek 1 Series convertible was a popular choice for gents who thought back seats were for keeping creases out of a jacket rather than freeloading friends. The bad news? The model's been discontinued.

On this front, BMW will this month release a car that, in theory, should be twice as good – the 2 Series convertible.

The new drop-top is longer, wider and better looking, but still comes with back seats a Hobbit would find a squeeze.

It packs a sensible four-cylinder engine, but that matters not because the range-topping \$85,800 M235i version is powered by a turbocharged 240kW six-cylinder beast that hurls it to 100km/h in five seconds flat.

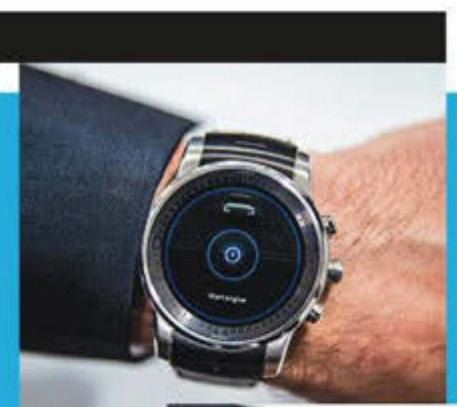
That's an impressive 0.6 of a second faster than the 1 Series. So not twice as good – but close enough. [bmw.com.au](http://bmw.com.au)

THE WATCH

## DRIVE TIME

There will be a moment in the future when smartwatches actually look as smart as they are – and soon we won't be able to remember what life was like without them.

This as-yet-unnamed and recently unveiled 'timepiece' – a hush-hush tie-up between LG and Audi – has the capability to summon a self-driving car. It can also lock and unlock said vehicle, start it remotely and uses Android software, so the kids will be down with it. Most importantly, though, it looks cool.



THIS STYLISH SMARTWATCH WILL UNLOCK AND START YOUR CAR. BECAUSE THAT'S THE FUTURE.



### BACK-SEAT DRIVER TIM ROSS

JOINING TEAM GQ, FUNNYMAN 'ROSSO' DELIVERS SOME DAD DILEMMAS FOR MOTORS OLD AND NEW.

#### THE OLD

Car choices for dads used to be whole lot simpler. Back in the day, if you wanted to be mistaken for a cab driver, a 1979 Ford XD was an obvious choice. From a time when central locking was in fact a sex act, this was a car that screamed for a beaded seat cover. And who needed air conditioning when you had a fan to blow hot air straight onto the potato salad riding shotgun with your girl. Questionable road handling? Yes please.



Still, with the XD you knew your place – whether backing over a tyre swan or watching your son read the street directory like Raymond Babbitt in *Rain Man*, deep down you understood that life's only excitement, as a father, lay in a stack of mags buried away in your shed.

#### THE NEW

A little bit of me broke inside when geezer Dave from across the road told me he'd just ordered the new Audi TT.



Like me, he's a dad of two and before I had a chance to engage chat around practicality, he let fly, 'I'm just going to whack the baby seats in the back, lad!'

I looked at my dad wagon, the back seat a rice-cracker graveyard, and realised the only thrills available came from avoiding a toy dinosaur tail up the jacksie when sliding into the passenger seat.

Now Dave is going to be behind the wheel of the latest version of this 1998 design classic, while I'm listening to *The Very Best Of Dire Straits* wearing a polar fleece jumper.

Fair play though, he has the right idea – why wait until the kids are older to get yourself a great motor? By then they'll want to drive it and you'll lose out.

THE INTERVIEW

# DANIEL RICCIARDO

WITH THE NEW F1 SEASON IMMINENT, WE TALK TO THE 25-YEAR-OLD AUSSIE CHARGE ON WHAT IT TAKES TO BECOME NUMBER ONE, HIS STRUGGLES WITH PARKING AND WHY REAL MEN RIDE SCOOTERS.

**GQ:** Jeremy Clarkson recently described you as the best talent in Formula One. Thoughts?

**Daniel Ricciardo:** I'll obviously take that as a compliment. It's rewarding when you hear people who've been around the sport a long time give out nice feedback. I made a good impression last year, and I'm pleased with that.

**GQ:** In terms of goals for this season, is the championship a realistic aim, or are you always striving for that?

**DR:** It's something you always want, and coming into a season it's on everyone's mind to go out and be the world champion. And I believe I can do it. There's a few other factors in there – say, the performance of the car – but if we have a good package, we're in the right place to deliver.

**GQ:** Can you explain to a layman what it's like to take a corner faster than 300km/h?

**DR:** Besides it being awesome? Well, you feel everything through your body. It's at that point you realise it's a full-body workout – you feel it through your lower back, the G-forces, through your arms, your neck. But at the same time you also feel the car underneath your bum – gripping to the track, and it's like... ahhh. It's just so cool. You basically feel attached to the car.

**GQ:** Right – onto the cars you've owned.

**DR:** I still have my ute in Australia, and in Monaco I've got an Infiniti Q50 – that's the model I get around in. And when traffic's bad I have a scooter to get me to the supermarket; Monaco is all about convenience.

**GQ:** Do people trip out when they pull up beside an F1 driver on his scooter, at the lights?

**DR:** I haven't had that happen, but I'm normally off before they can catch me, so maybe that's why [laughs].

**GQ:** Because you're a demon on the scooter – right?

**DR:** I do like my two wheels. I get a pretty good lean angle on.

**GQ:** Of course you do. What type of scooter is it?

**DR:** A little Vespa – it's not fast at all. I do my best.

**GQ:** What did you learn to drive in?



WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE TRACK?



**DR:** I love Melbourne, Montreal and Monaco – they're all street circuits. Even before [racing F1], if I was to name one, I would have said Montreal.

**GQ:** What is it about that circuit? How it flows, the proximity of the fans? The quality of the poutine?

**DR:** For me, the track has a lot of character.

There are a lot of parts where you throw the car across the curves, and exit really close to the walls – there's not much room for mistakes. That's pretty fun, it keeps you on your toes.

**DR:** A Mini Cooper S, I think it was a 1970 model. I learnt to drive manual in that, in the back streets of an industrial area when I was young. That's where I was taught the basics of a road vehicle. It was one of Dad's.

**GQ:** And what was the first car you ever owned?

**DR:** A HiLux and I've still got it – it's my boy and it's ideal for throwing the bike in the back, and all the rest of it, and heading off for a ride.

**GQ:** Would you describe yourself as a good driver on the roads? Or are you wildly impatient?

**DR:** As a road driver, I'm pretty good – I'm aware of everything and I stay in the left lane if I'm not overtaking. But I'm not so good at parking. In a race car we don't park that much, so my parallel parking isn't the best.

**GQ:** Any embarrassing moments when trying to reverse park and everyone's watching?

**DR:** I normally don't put myself in that situation. If I don't feel confident that I'm going to get in there, then I'd rather just find one further away and walk.

2015 Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix, March 12-15

# FROM INTERIOR DESIGN TO ART AND CULTURE

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# THE LAB



01

## UNDERWATER CAMERAS

WE PUT FIVE OF OUR FAVOURITES TO THE TEST, AND CHECK OUT WHO'S WINNING THE COMPACT COMPUTER RACE.



## AQUA PICKS

INDULGE YOUR INNER JACQUES COUSTEAU WITH ONE OF THESE WATERPROOF PIECES.

### THE BREAKDOWN

	'Stylus Tough TG-3' by Olympus	'1 AW1' by Nikon	'Powershot D30' by Canon	'WG-4 GPS' by Ricoh	'Lumix DMC-FT5' by Panasonic
Dimensions (h x w x d)	6.59 x 11.15 x 3.12cm	7.15 x 11.35 x 3.7cm	6.8 x 10.94 x 2.57cm	6.45 x 12.5 x 3.2cm	6.74 x 10.92 x 2.89cm
Weight	247g	313g	218g	236g	188g
Megapixels	16	14.2	12.1	16	16.1
Image sensor size	1/2.3in	1in	1/2.3in	1/2.3in	1/2.3in
Waterproof depth	15 metres	15 metres	25 metres	14 metres	13 metres

### 1. 'STYLUS TOUGH TG-3' BY OLYMPUS

This camera is not only built to last, but also has a barometer and altimeter. It struggled to get the white balance right on our test images, but they were always crisp. One nice touch is the ability to add lens adapters, such as a fisheye mount.

\$399, [olympus.com.au](http://olympus.com.au)

**WIN: FOCUS STACKING FOR CLEAR MACRO SHOTS**

**FAIL: RELATIVELY HEAVY**

### 2. '1 AW1' BY NIKON

You've got to hand it to Nikon. Creating an underwater compact-system camera (translation: a camera with a changeable lens) for this price is no mean feat. The shots are all of a high standard, as you'd expect, and the only real downside is that it's more unwieldy than a compact.

POA, [nikon.com.au](http://nikon.com.au)

**WIN: GREAT READ DISPLAY**

**FAIL: HAND GRIP ISN'T VERY, ERM, GRIPPY**

### 3. 'POWERSHOT D30' BY CANON

Although some of the buttons were squiddy to touch after we'd taken the camera out of our pool test, its main selling point is that it feels nice in the hands. Other than that, it rates averagely: pictures are fine but the colours always slightly off, and there's no wi-fi mode.

\$399, [canon.com.au](http://canon.com.au)

**WIN: GPS-ENABLED**

**FAIL: LACKS A HEAVY-DUTY BELT CLIP**

### 4. 'WG-4 GPS' BY RICOH

This camera looks childish, and its shots are just as unsophisticated. Our indoor images taken in automatic mode were 'warmed up' to the point of yellowness and lacked focus. It was not clear how to fix this, so it gets a poor review.

\$439, [pentax.com.au](http://pentax.com.au)

**WIN: GENEROUSLY WIDE-ANGLED LENS**

**FAIL: LOOKS EMBARRASSING**

### 5. 'LUMIX DMC-FT5' BY PANASONIC

It's small, light and built to withstand a day's snorkelling – plus it comes bundled with a barometer and altimeter. But the Panasonic was counterintuitive to use. Try as we might, we couldn't get the flash to fire in the dark, and pictures in normal light came out with a yellow-green hue.

\$399, [panasonic.com.au](http://panasonic.com.au)

**WIN: BUILT-IN WI-FI**

**FAIL: RELATIVELY SLOW TO FOCUS**

# DESKTOP SAVERS

WITH APPLE'S ENTRY-LEVEL MAC MINI RECENTLY REVEALED, HERE ARE THE LEADING LIGHTS ON THE HOME COMPUTER MARKET.

## 1. 'MAC MINI' BY APPLE

This is surprisingly large when placed next to its mini-PC counterparts. Although it's not the largest, at 19.7cm<sup>2</sup> it compares poorly against the 11.7cm<sup>2</sup> Intel we tested. However, it remains a class apart in both aesthetics and performance. The latest models have direct HDMI connections to link to your TV, plus two thunderbolt ports, meaning lightning-fast (sorry) access to external drives. The only downside? It's no longer upgradable, meaning you're stuck with the level you purchase.

\$619, [apple.com](http://apple.com)

**WIN:** SLEEKEST, SMARTEST UNIT

**FAIL:** EXPENSIVE; NOT UPGRADABLE

## 2. 'REVO RL80' BY ACER

The Acer is not a pretty beast. Shiny and tacky – with a skunk-strip of copper through the middle – it feels like it'd be more at home in a teenage bedroom than your corner desk. It's also bulky, partly because of the unnecessary CD-drive but also owing to bad design. Granted, there's a wealth of connections – including old-school monitor connection, optical port and six USBs – but they seem slightly over the top for a mini-PC.

\$100, [acer.com](http://acer.com)

**WIN:** PLENTIFUL CONNECTIONS

**FAIL:** TACKY AESTHETIC; BULKY

## 3. 'VIVOMINI' BY ASUS

We didn't expect to like Asus' 'VivoMini' as much as we did. For starters, there's only 32GB native storage, but we found that this doesn't really matter as you'll use it either with the cloud (100GB free storage) or an external hard drive. Either way, your files can always be with you. With a Celeron processor and just 2GB of RAM, the Asus is no powerhouse, but for web, video streaming and home-office work, it's ideal.

\$100, [asus.com.au](http://asus.com.au)

**WIN:** GREAT FOR VIDEO STREAMING

**FAIL:** MINIMAL PHYSICAL STORAGE

## 4. 'NUC D54250WYK' BY INTEL

First, something that shouldn't matter but does: too often, PCs, even mini-PCs, are noisy while running. In part, Apple became the creatives' computer of choice due to its silence – but Intel's super-stealthy NUC is more than a match when it comes to running volume. Not only is it the smallest on test – at just 11.7 x 11.2cm it's absurdly tiny – it's also remarkably powerful. With a zippy Intel Core i5 processor, it feels like a much bigger beast. However, a huge downside: it comes bare-bones, meaning you have to add memory, hard drive and wireless card, which can really ramp up the price.

From \$499, [intel.com.au](http://intel.com.au)

**WIN:** MOST ADAPTABLE SET-UP; SMALLEST UNIT

**FAIL:** CAN PROVE COSTLY

THE BREAKDOWN	'Mac Mini' by Apple	'Revo RL80' by Acer	'VivoMini' by Asus	'NUC D54250WYK' by Intel
Dimensions (h x w x d)	3.6 x 19.7 x 19.7	5.4 x 20.9 x 20.9cm	4.2 x 13 x 13cm	3.5 x 11.7 x 11.2cm
Weight	1.19kg	2.6kg	1kg	1kg
Processor	1.4GHz dual-core Intel Core i5	1.5 GHz Intel Dual Core	Intel® Celeron® 2957U	Intel® Core™ i5-4250U
Hard Drive	500GB	750GB	32GB (100GB cloud)	180GB
RAM	4GB	4GB	2GB	8GB
Optical	No	Yes	No	No





# SHIFTING SANDS

IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY HEARD OF SAND, IT'S TIME TO GET ACQUAINTED. FRESH FROM CONQUERING AMERICA, THE DANISH BRAND IS NOW TURNING ITS FOCUS TO AUSTRALIA.



Combining Scandinavian design principles with fine Italian fabrics, Danish fashion brand Sand is a welcome addition to the growing number of international retailers to arrive in Australia in recent years.

The brand, which is renowned for its distinctive contemporary aesthetic and passion for quality fits and fabrics, caters for a variety of tastes and occasions with three distinct ranges. These include the playful and preppy 'Pink Label', the sharp, sophisticated 'Black Label' and the eye-catching, high-end 'Red Carpet' collection.

CEO and creative director Søren Sand, who co-founded the brand with his wife in the early 1980s, explains why we'll be happy to see a lot more Sand on our shores this year.

#### How would you sum up the style of Sand menswear?

Søren Sand: Contemporary design in high-quality fabrics and careful tailoring with a playful edge, formal shirts and tailor-made suits from the best European weavers.

#### What makes Sand different from other menswear labels available in Australia?

SS: We are Scandinavian and the focus is on design and fit. We have fantastic colour combinations and versatility in our brand and are innovative with prints and colours.

#### Where can shoppers find Sand menswear in Australia?

SS: We currently have five shop-in-shops in David Jones [stores]

in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth. On top of this, we are pleased to announce an expansion in autumn/winter 2015 with flagship stores in Chadstone [Melbourne] and Bondi [Sydney].

#### What will we see at the Sand stores in David Jones?

SS: Currently we offer pieces from the 'Black Label', 'Pink Label' and a small range of 'Red Carpet'. We are negotiating to introduce some exciting new accessory and shoe collections.

#### What are you most looking forward to about this year?

SS: Australia, and in particular David Jones, along with Saks Fifth Avenue will be the first pilot department stores in the world to implement our new made-to-order system, whereby a customer can have direct interaction in the construction of his garment and choose from a variety of exclusive fabrics and linings. We're excited about this new concept, which will have a six-week turnaround.

#### How have Australian men responded to Sand so far?

SS: The Australian consumer has taken to Sand because it represents a new way of dressing and in particular a Scandinavian look that is cool, clean and contemporary.

#### How popular has Sand menswear been in America since the 2012 launch?

SS: Actually, we started a couple of years before that, and have always had a successful wholesale business. However, in spring 2012 things started to happen as we got into two test stores at



Saks Fifth Avenue in New York and Chicago – and a year later, we were in all 39 Saks stores. At present, Sand is also represented at 220 premium stores in North America.

#### What sort of gentlemen wear Sand clothing?

SS: Men with a cool laid-back attitude; they are sexy with a touch of macho and they like the nice things in life.

#### What are your impressions of Australia so far?

SS: I have always been fascinated by Australia and the beautiful landscape. I was also amazed at the international feel of your two largest cities: Sydney with its breathtaking harbour and Melbourne with its beautiful tree-lined boulevards and laneways – you could almost be in Paris or Copenhagen.

## GQ PICKS

**SAND'S CURRENT RANGE FEATURES CONTEMPORARY WARDROBE STAPLES. HERE ARE SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS, SELECTED BY GQ FASHION EDITOR BARNABY ASH.**



Wool  
'Paul' shorts.



Cotton  
'Iver' shirt.



Wool-blend  
'Ringo' jacket.



Wool-blend  
'Alford' vest.



Wool-blend double-breasted  
'Ringo' jacket.



Cotton  
'Craig' shorts.



# Calibre

ONE OF A KIND

[CALIBRE.COM.AU](http://CALIBRE.COM.AU)

# OUTFITTER

FROM  
TOP  
↓

WOOL HAT, \$560, BY BORSALINO AT HARROLD'S; CROCODILE LEATHER LOAFERS, \$2040, AND LEATHER 'EQUESTRIAN' WHIP, \$290, BOTH BY GUCCI; SILK POCKET SQUARE, \$59, BY FARAGE; SILK TIE, \$235, BY SALVATORE FERRAGAMO; LEATHER GLOVES, \$200, BY DENTS AT STRAND HATTERS; SILK SCARF, \$465, BY HERMÈS; STAINLESS STEEL 'MASTER COLLECTION' WATCH, \$3975, BY LONGINES; POLYESTER SATIN FLOWER PIN, \$39, BY CALIBRE; FELT FLOWER PIN, \$19.95, BY JAMES HARPER.



## AUTUMN RACING FORM GUIDE

BE FIRST PAST THE  
POST WITH THIS  
STYLISH COLLECTION  
OF TRACKSIDE  
FASHION.

# WINNING EACH WAY

## SIX RACEDAY LOOKS TO SET YOU APART FROM THE PACK.



DON'T  
BE AFRAID  
TO MIX  
PRINTS  
WITH  
PATTERNS.

BE AFRAID  
TO MIX  
PRINTS  
WITH  
PATTERNS.

1

WEAR A  
ROLLNECK  
KNIT – IT  
WORKS  
WITH  
TAILORING  
WHILE  
KEEPING  
THINGS  
COSY.

1. COTTON JACKET, \$399, AND COTTON PAINTS, \$179, BOTH BY AQUILA; COTTON SHIRT, \$99, BY GIBSON; SILK BLEND 'HENLOW' TIE, \$109, BY TED BAKER; COTTON-BLEND 'HANK' SOCKS, \$15, BY BARNABY; LEATHER SHOES, \$1690, BY SALVATORE FERRAGAMO; FELT FLOWER PIN, \$19.95, BY JAMES HARPER; SILK POCKET SQUARE, \$19, BY POLO RALPH LAUREN; METAL TIE CLIP, APPROX. \$19, BY THE TIE BAR; 'E-M5 MARK II' CAMERA, \$1299, DIGITAL 'MIZUKO' 12MM SUPER WIDE LENS, \$999, AND LEATHER BODY JACKET, \$199 ALL BY OLYMPUS; STAINLESS STEEL 'SEAMASTER AQUA TERRA' WATCH, \$6900, BY OMEGA.

2. WOOL SUIT, \$2385, BY GUCCI; COTTON/SILK '7GG' TURTLENECK, \$650, BY BALLY; COTTON-BLEND 'DAMSON' SOCKS, \$32, BY PAUL SMITH; LEATHER SHOES, \$995, BY SALVATORE FERRAGAMO; POLYESTER SATIN FLOWER PIN, \$39, BY CALIBRE; SILK POCKET SQUARE, \$59, BY FARAGE; BRASS/WOODEN CANE, \$90, BY STRAND HATTERS; LEATHER GLOVES, \$200, BY DENTS AT STRAND HATTERS; STAINLESS STEEL 'MASTER COLLECTION' WATCH, \$3975, BY LONGINES.

**3. WOOL JACKET, \$475, AND MATCHING PANTS, \$220, BOTH BY DOM BAGNATO; COTTON 'DAWES' SHIRT, \$99.95, SILK 'MARCEAU' TIE, \$160, AND SILK 'SALVADOR' POCKET SQUARE, \$29.95, ALL BY MJ BAILE; LEATHER LOAFERS, \$135, BY ERMENEGILDO ZEGNA; NYLON 'LORD HICKORY' UMBRELLA, \$57.50, BY FRANCESCO MAGLIA AT HARROLD'S; POLYESTER/SATIN FLOWER PIN, \$39, BY CALIBRE; METAL TIE CLIP, \$260, BY SALVATORE FERRAGAMO; STAINLESS STEEL 'DE VILLE' CHRONOGRAPH WATCH, \$972, BY OMEGA.**





4



DON'T  
ALWAYS  
OPT FOR  
NEUTRAL  
COLOURS.  
THIS BOLD,  
PURPLE  
SUIT WILL  
GET YOU  
NOTICED.

4. WOOL JACKET, \$645, AND WOOL PANTS, \$285, BOTH BY PAUL SMITH; COTTON 'LYDBURY' SHIRT, \$169, BY RODD & GUNN; SILK TIE, \$145, BY HARROLD'S; LEATHER 'GRANVILLE' BOOTS, \$289, BY AQUILA; ACETATE GLASSES, BY \$329, PERSOL AT OPSM; SILK POCKET SQUARE, \$129, BY BOSS MEN'SWEAR; METAL TIE CLIP, APPROX. \$19, BY THE TIE BAR; STAINLESS STEEL 'COLUMN-WHEEL CHRONOGRAPH' WATCH, BY \$3650, LONGINES.

5. WOOL-BLEND JACKET, \$899, WOOL-BLEND PANTS, \$349, SILK TIE, \$69.95, SILK POCKET SQUARE, \$34.95, AND METAL TIE CLIP, \$59.95, ALL BY

DON'T

FORGET THE  
FINISHING  
TOUCHES  
- A LAPEL  
FLOWER,  
POCKET  
SQUARE  
AND TIE PIN.

5

HARDY AMIES; COTTON 'IVER' SHIRT, \$240, BY SAND; COTTON-BLEND 'BATT' SOCKS, \$32, BY PAUL SMITH; LEATHER 'PORTHOS' SHOES, \$825, BY BALLY; '8X40 DPS' BINOCULARS, \$129, BY OLYMPUS; WOOL TRILBY, \$99.95, BY BEN SHERMAN.

6. WOOL SUIT, \$1599, AND LEATHER SHOES, \$599, BOTH BY HUGO BOSS; COTTON SHIRT, \$365, AND COTTON POCKET SQUARE, \$165, BOTH BY GUCCI; WOOL 'JOHN FRANCOMB' TIE, \$69.95, BY TM LEWIN; COTTON-BLEND SOCKS, \$6.95, BY BONDS; BRASS/PEARL-PLATED TIE PIN, \$150, BY PAUL SMITH.



DO  
WEAR A  
SLIM-CUT  
DOUBLE-  
BREASTED  
JACKET TO  
AVOID IT  
APPEARING  
TOO BULKY.

6

**SUIT**

"Want a suit that's a bit different from your regular office staples? Bright pink is not the way to go; don't be that guy. This cool flannel number will help you stand out – without the pointing and laughing."

**JAKE MILLAR,**  
**FEATURES WRITER**

WOOL SUIT, \$890, BY ATELIER SCOTCH.



5

**BRIEFCASE**

"This piece oozes refinement – simple classic lines, accented with hand-cast brass hardware. Frankly, I'd still carry it around even if it was empty."

**CHRISTIAN HARIMANOW,**  
**INTERACTIVE DESIGNER**  
LEATHER 'KINGSMAN' BRIEFCASE,  
APPROX. \$3790, BY SWAINE  
ADENEY BRIGGAT MR PORTER.



# GQ LOVES

FIVE PIECES  
THE TEAM IS  
WANTING  
THIS MONTH.



2

**TIE**

"If, like me, you don't have a lot of floral in your wardrobe, this tie is the perfect start. A simple pattern and matte finish add a nice pop to a raceday suit, without looking like you got lost in the garden on the way."

**JOSH BEGGS,**  
**ART DIRECTOR**  
WOOL TIE, \$169,  
BY HUGO BOSS.



3

**CUFLINKS**

"These buffalo horn bad boys are unique, understated and definitely cooler than the other cufflinks currently collecting dust in my drawer."

**JOHN AGNEW,**  
**ONLINE PRODUCER**  
BUFFALO HORN CUFFLINKS,  
\$391, BY MATHIEU JEROME AT  
MATCHES FASHION.

4

**SHOES**

"Nothing like a bit of woven leather to upgrade your footwear. And these Ferragamo lace-ups will have you looking sharp for years to come."

**BARNABY ASH,**  
**FASHION EDITOR**  
LEATHER BROGUES,  
\$995, BY SALVATORE  
FERRAGAMO.



TICK TOCK

# CLASSIC TIMEPIECES

KEEP IT REFINED, AND COOL, WITH A LEATHER STRAP WATCH.

FROM  
TOP  
↓

GOLD/PLATINUM 'BIG BANG FERRARI KING GOLD' WATCH, \$47,200, BY **HUBLOT**; GOLD 'TANK MC CHRONOGRAPH' WATCH, \$30,200, BY **CARTIER**; STAINLESS STEEL 'PORTUGIESER AUTOMATIC' WATCH, \$15,600, BY **IWC**; GOLD 'MAESTRO COLLECTION' WATCH, POA, BY **RAYMOND WEIL**; STAINLESS STEEL 'DE VILLE HOUR VISION ORBIS' WATCH, \$8300, BY **OMEGA**; STAINLESS STEEL '1945' WATCH, POA, BY **GIRARD-PERREGAUX**.





OUTFITTER

ACCESSORIES

# PAISLEY DOES IT

ADD A SIDE OF FLAIR TO YOUR TRACKSIDE ATTIRE WITH THE SEASON'S HOTTEST PRINT.

1. SILK TIE, \$149, BY HUGO BOSS. 2. SILK TIE, \$99.95, BY ABEILARD. 3. POLYESTER 'GOSPORT' TIE, \$119, BY TED BAKER. 4. SILK TIE, \$69.95, BY TM LEWIN. 5. SILK 'ASTOR' TIE, \$160, BY MJ BALE.

SILK POCKET SQUARE, \$69, BY HUGO BOSS; SILK 'YEARONE' POCKET SQUARE, \$54.95, BY TED BAKER; WOOL 'VELINO ROYAL' POCKET SQUARE, \$29.95, BY MJ BALE; SILK POCKET SQUARE, \$49.50, BY BROOKS BROTHERS.



STYLIST: BARNABY ASH. PHOTOGRAPHY: EDWARD URRUTIA.



# MY STYLE

A SELF-TAUGHT TAILOR, **ROGER SHAMOUN** WENT FROM CUTTING UP HIS DAD'S JACKETS AS A TEEN, TO MAKING SYDNEY'S ZIMMA TAILORS A LUXURY DESTINATION THE WORLD OVER.



#### Get his look **BOUTONNIÈRE**

"My grandmother Isabella's hand-crocheted pocket squares and boutonnieres are made with absolute love. She's 86 and she's my mentor." COTTON BOUTONNIÈRE, \$39, BY ZIMMA TAILORS.



#### Wish list **ART**

Fernando Botero's 'The Card Players' oil painting; [oceansbridge.com](http://oceansbridge.com)



#### Favourite things **MOTORBIKE**

Matte black Yamaha 'R1' motorbike, [yamaha-motor.com.au](http://yamaha-motor.com.au)



"I LOVE WOOL-BLEND TIES, THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT THE WAY THEY DO UP."

WOOL/SILK TIE, \$129, BY ZIMMA TAILORS.



#### Get his look **POCKET SQUARES**

"The workmanship is very skilled and patient, with all edges hand-rolled and stitched." Silk pocket square, \$55, by Zimma Tailors.



#### Wish list **SCENT**

CARON 'Pour Un Homme' perfume, approx. \$110 (125ml); [parfumscaron.com](http://parfumscaron.com)



#### Favourite things **BACKGAMMON BOARD**

"My way to relax on the weekends is playing backgammon with friends at a cafe." Mother-of-pearl inlaid backgammon board, approx. \$250; [rummagemhome.com](http://rummagemhome.com)

## GET HIS LOOK

"Wearing a suit which has a pattern cut for your body, from cloth that you selected with all the details that reflect your personality, is what it's all about. In our bespoke process, we do everything from cut a new pattern and soak and drip-dry the full horse-hair canvas to hand-stitch the buttonholes, the Milanese lapel hole as well as hand-pick the stitching."

BESPOKE SUITS FROM \$3500. [ZIMMATAILORS.COM](http://ZIMMATAILORS.COM)



OUTFITTER

# TOP COATS

PAINT THE PERFECT SARTORIAL PICTURE WITH AUTUMN'S BEST OUTERWEAR.



WOOL COAT, \$3270, BY PRADA; WOOL SUIT, \$395, AND OSTRICH LEATHER LOAFERS, \$4015, BOTH BY ERMENEGILDO ZEGNA COUTURE; COTTON SHIRT, \$89.95, BY CALVIN KLEIN WHITE LABEL; COTTON-BLEND 'HANK' SOCKS, \$15, BY BARNABY.

WOOL 'FRANKLIN' COAT, \$699, BY MJ BALE; WOOL-BLEND JACKET, \$899, WOOL-BLEND TROUSERS, \$349, AND COTTON SHIRT, \$120, ALL BY HARDY AMIES; COTTON-BLEND 'HANK' SOCKS, \$15, BY BARNABY; LEATHER SHOES, \$1690, BY SALVATORE FERRAGAMO.



WOOL COAT, \$2599, BY POLO RALPH LAUREN; COTTON 'IRVING' JACKET, \$398, AND MATCHING PANTS, \$198, BOTH BY ARTHUR GALAN; COTTON SHIRT, \$215, BY PAUL SMITH; WOOL TIE, \$310, BY EMPORIO ARMANI; COTTON-BLEND 'HANK' SOCKS, \$15, BY BARNABY; LEATHER 'OSCAR' SHOES, \$279, BY TRENERY.



COTTON TRENCH COAT, \$799, BY HARDY AMIES; WOOL SUIT, \$1499, BY BOSS MENSWEAR; COTTON SHIRT, \$215, BY PAUL SMITH.



STYLIST: BARNABY ASH. PHOTOGRAPHY: DANIEL GURTON. MODEL: JACK TYERMAN AT IMG. FOR ALL STOCKIST DETAILS, SEE P214.

## SVELTE TIP

BECAUSE A HAT IS THE SEASON'S MOST STYLISH ACCESSORY.

1. FUR/FELT FEDORA, \$250, BY AKUBRA AT STRAND HATTERS.
2. WOOL/FELT 'THE DINGO' HAT, \$995, BY FALLEN BROKEN STREET.
3. FUR/FELT HAT, \$250, BY AKUBRA AT STRAND HATTERS.
4. WOOL FEDORA, \$279, BY HUGO BOSS.

01



02



03



04



SUEDE TRENCH COAT, \$6395, WOOL/SILK SUIT, \$2250, AND LEATHER 'PORTHOS' SHOES, \$825, ALL BY BALLY; COTTON SHIRT, \$89.95, BY CALVIN KLEIN WHITE LABEL; SILK TIE, \$235, BY SALVATORE FERRAGAMO; COTTON-BLEND 'HANK' SOCKS, \$15, BY BARNABY.

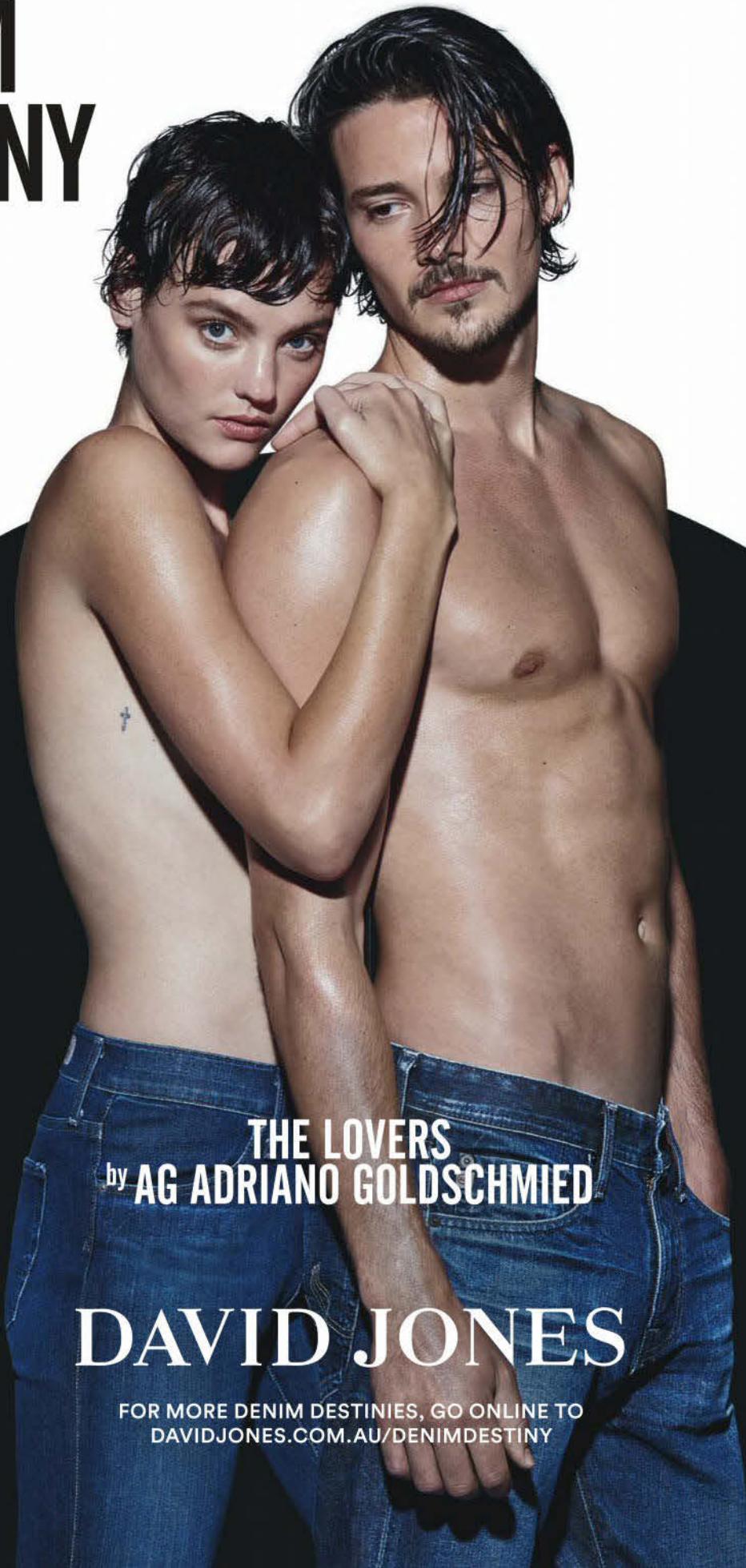


FUR COAT, \$1760, BY EMPORIO ARMANI; WOOL SUIT, \$1399, AND WOOL TIE, \$149, BOTH BY BOSS MENSWEAR; COTTON SHIRT, \$120, BY HARDY AMIES; COTTON-BLEND 'HANK' SOCKS, \$15, BY BARNABY; IMITATION LEATHER SHOES, \$69.95, BY H&M.

FOR MORE  
SEASONAL  
STYLE ADVICE,  
VISIT

 GQ.COM.AU

# DENIM DESTINY



THE LOVERS  
by AG ADRIANO GOLDSCHMIED

DAVID JONES

FOR MORE DENIM DESTINIES, GO ONLINE TO  
[DAVIDJONES.COM.AU/DENIMDESTINY](http://DAVIDJONES.COM.AU/DENIMDESTINY)

THE PURCHASE

# GOOD JEANS

CUT AND WASH ARE KEY, BUT  
DON'T FORGET THE DETAILS  
- COLOURED STITCHING  
AND POCKET SHAPE ADD  
EXTRA PERSONALITY.

COTTON  
'BRONSON 3D'  
JEANS, \$200,  
BY G-STAR.



THE GQ  
DENIM  
EDIT

OPTIONS

# FIVE COOL COMBOS

GRAB A NEW PAIR, ROLL THEM UP AND STEP OUT IN STYLE.



## EXPERT ADVICE

"DARK GREY OR BLACK DENIM, WORN WITH A BLACK BOOT, IS A CLASSIC WINTER LOOK. CONSIDER THE 'PREPPY' TREND AND PAIR LIGHTER BLUE JEANS WITH TAN BROGUES, OR DRESS YOUR JEANS DOWN WITH SOME CONVERSE."

DEBORAH FOREMAN  
DAVID JONES GENERAL  
MANAGER, MENSWEAR



## STYLE TIP

FOR ADDED ATTITUDE, LEAVE YOUR SOCKS AT HOME AND SHOW OFF SOME ANKLE.



STYLE TIP  
THICK JEANS? ONLY ROLL THE HEM UP TWICE.

COTTON JEANS, \$210, BY G-STAR; LEATHER 'STOKES' BROGUES, \$269, BY AQUILA.

COTTON 'RAW B DEXTER' JEANS, \$66, BY TOPMAN; CANVAS/RUBBER SNEAKERS, \$140, BY JACK PURCELL X DENHAM FOR CONVERSE.



## STYLE TIP

CHOOSE A COLOURED SHOE THAT COMPLEMENTS THE SHADE OF DENIM.

COTTON JEANS, \$98, BY TOPMAN; SUEDE SHOES, \$479, BY BOSS MENSWEAR.

COTTON '501CT DALSTON' JEANS, \$150, BY LEVI'S; LEATHER SHOES, \$240, BY VANISHING ELEPHANT.

COTTON JEANS, \$345, BY CITIZENS OF HUMANITY; COTTON 'ROSHE FLYKNIT' SNEAKERS, \$160, BY NIKE.

STYLING: EMMA FAGG. PHOTOGRAPHY: EDWARD URRUTIA. MODEL: JAKE MILLAR. ILLUSTRATION: LUCI GUTIÉRREZ.

## THE DO'S AND DON'TS OF DENIM

THERE ARE AS MANY URBAN MYTHS AS WASHES - HERE, ALL YOU REALLY NEED TO KNOW TO KEEP JEANS CLEAN.



1. FILL A BATH WITH 20cm OF COLD WATER AND HALF A CUP OF WOOLITE 'EXTRA DARK' LIQUID.  
2. TURN JEANS INSIDE OUT AND SOAK FOR 10 MINUTES. GENTLY RINSE UNDER COLD WATER.  
3. AIR-DRY IN SHADE, PUTTING THEM ON AFTER AN HOUR IF YOU WANT THEM TO HOLD FORM.  
4. WEAR UNTIL THEY SMELL AGAIN.



- LET YOUR JEANS ANYWHERE NEAR A WASHING MACHINE OR DRYER.
- CLEAN YOUR JEANS BEFORE THEIR FIRST OUTING - YOU NEED TO WEAR THEM IN.
- WASH JEANS MORE THAN ONCE EVERY SIX MONTHS.



### STYLE SHRINK

IS IT TRUE YOU CAN PUT JEANS IN THE FREEZER INSTEAD OF WASHING THEM?

A: KIND OF. TO KILL BACTERIA AND FRESHEN THEM UP, THROW YOUR JEANS IN A PLASTIC BAG AND FREEZE OVERNIGHT. NOTE - THIS DOESN'T ACTUALLY CLEAN THEM.

## THE WASHES TO WEAR



BLUE NIRVANA  
COTTON 511 JEANS, \$40, BY LEVI'S.



AUTHENTIC BLUE  
COTTON JEANS, \$84, BY TOPMAN.



BUSTER BLUE  
COTTON JEANS, \$350, BY G-STAR.



DEF BLUE  
COTTON L2 JEANS, \$130, BY LEE AT DAVID JONES.



YVES LIGHT BLUE  
COTTON BERLIN JEANS, \$150, BY MAVI.



BLUE GOLD  
COTTON THE DYLAN JEANS, \$329, BY AG ADRIANO GOLDSCHMIED AT DAVID JONES.



MID BLUE  
COTTON JEANS, \$140, BY CALVIN KLEIN JEANS AT DAVID JONES.



RAW INDIGO  
COTTON JEANS, \$299, BY DENHAM.



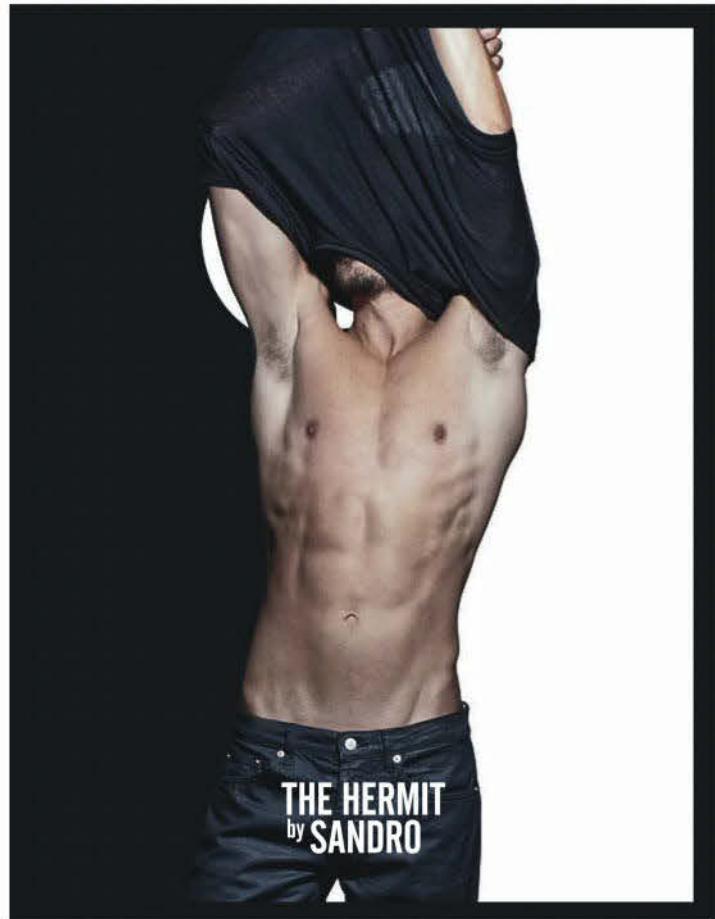
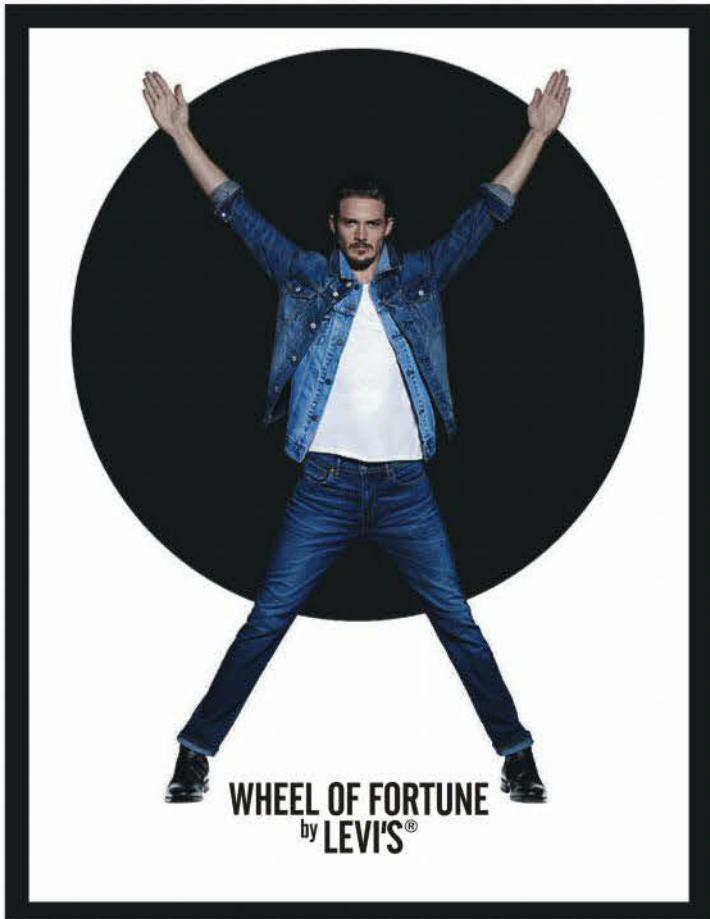
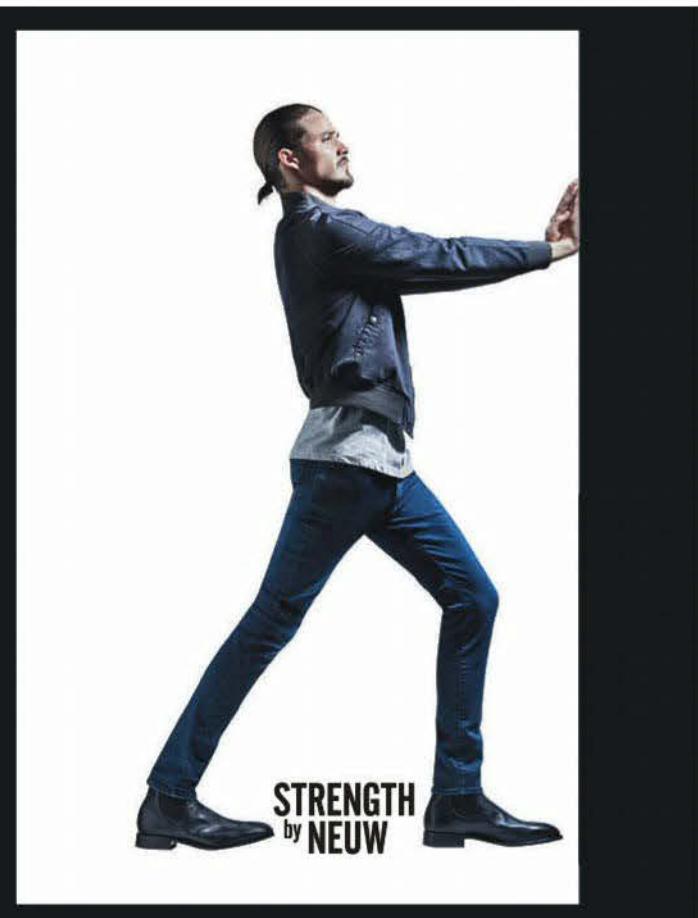
# DENIM DESTINY



THE MOON  
by NUDIE JEANS

## DAVID JONES

FOR MORE DENIM DESTINIES, GO ONLINE TO  
[DAVIDJONES.COM.AU/DENIMDESTINY](http://DAVIDJONES.COM.AU/DENIMDESTINY)





COTTON 'COMMUTER' TOTE, \$159, BY **NOBODY**  
**DENIM**; COTTON 'ACE' JEANS, \$300, BY **ACNE**; COTTON 'RTFO' JACKET, \$340, BY **G-STAR**; COTTON SHIRT, \$96, BY **TOPMAN**.

# BRIGHTEN UP THE BLUES

DENIM DOESN'T JUST MEAN JEANS – THINK SHOES, SHIRTS, BLAZERS AND EVEN SUNGLASSES. MIX AND MATCH WITH DIFFERENT SHADES, AND DON'T FEAR WHITE.



“THE EXCITING THING ABOUT DESIGNING DENIM JEANS IS THE RANGE AND DIVERSITY OF FABRICS AVAILABLE TODAY.”

JASON DENHAM  
FOUNDER, DENHAM



COTTON 'ELSHAR' JACKET, \$499, BY DIESEL; COTTON CAP, \$79.95, BY GANT; COTTON 'STEAN' JEANS, \$350, BY G-STAR RAW; DENIM SUNGLASSES, \$250, BY RAY-BAN; COTTON '1969' SNEAKERS, \$69.95, BY GAP; COTTON SHIRT, \$189, BY DENHAM.

# BRUSH UP

GQ GROOMING EDITOR DAVID SMIEDT REVIEWS THE ORAL-B 'SMARTSERIES 7000' TOOTHBRUSH.

Every year, a bunch of grooming hardware lands at GQ HQ. Most promise cutting-edge technology, sleek styling and vast improvements on their predecessors. Most fall short on their claims.

The Oral-B 'SmartSeries 7000' toothbrush delivers on all three fronts. Its onboard bluetooth technology helps maintain optimum dental health by working in tandem with a free smartphone app to record brushing routines and patterns so your dentist can help you target problem areas.

Better still, the brush can store data from 20 brushing sessions and automatically updates whenever you launch the app. The fact that the app also syncs in with your calendar and local weather is a huge plus in preparing for the day ahead.

Welcome to the future of dental care and your best smile yet.



**1. CLEAN FINISH**  
Compatible with six different brush heads – 'CrossAction', 'Precision Clean', '3D White', 'Sensitive', 'Floss Action' and 'TriZone' – the bristles oscillate, rotate and pulse to remove 100 per cent more plaque than a normal toothbrush.

**4. BLUETOOTH WHITE TEETH**  
In a market first, the app that links with the Oral-B 'SmartSeries 7000' not only helps you achieve the 'two minutes twice a day' brushing routine recommended by dentists, it's also constantly updated with tips for dental health and syncs with your calendar and weather reports – so you know what lies ahead in your day, beyond the bathroom.

**2. CUSTOMISED PERFORMANCE**  
Choose from these six cleaning modes: 'Daily Cleaning', 'Deep Clean', 'Whitening', 'Gum Care', 'Sensitive' and 'Tongue Cleaning'. There is also an onboard pressure sensor which flashes red – on the brush and app – to indicate when you are brushing too hard and causing potential damage to your teeth and gums.

**3. ON THE MOVE**  
The Oral-B 'SmartSeries 7000' toothbrush is available in black or white models, and comes in a compact yet elegant case that is ideal for travel.



# GROOMING

EDITED BY DAVID SMIEDT PHOTOGRAPHY EDWARD URRUTIA



1. Molton Brown 'Re-charge Black Pepper Bodyscrub' soap, \$32 (250g). 2. Tom Ford 'Neroli Portofino' soap, \$50 (155g), at David Jones. 3. Musgo Real 'Men's Body' soap in Oak Moss and Lavender, \$9.50 each (160g), at Men's Biz. 4. Kalastyle 'Sea Salt' soap \$13.95 (122g), at Saison. 5. Wary Meyers 'Cedarwood and Vanilla' soap, \$22 (155g), at Douglas and Bec. 6. Kiehl's 'Ultimate Man' soap, \$21 (200g). 7. Clinique For Men 'Extra Strength Face' soap, \$25 (150g). 8. Bioelements 'His Volcanic Mud' soap, \$29.95 (170g). 9. Triumph & Disaster 'Shearer's' soap, \$14.25 (130g). 10. Triumph & Disaster 'A + R' soap, \$14.25 (130g).\*

## PROCEDURE

# BOTOX – ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

WITH MORE AUSTRALIAN MEN OPTING FOR A SMOOTH FACIAL FINISH, WE EXPLORE WHAT GETTING PRICKED IS ALL ABOUT.

According to recent reports, 10 per cent of all Australian Botox customers are men\*. Who knew we were so vain? Or perhaps it's to do with Aussies spending hours outdoors without adequate sun protection? Either way – it's time to pierce the realities of taking 'tox, with the qualified help of Dr Stephen Crimston from Sydney's Perpetua Cosmetic Injectables.

## WHAT IS BOTOX?

"Botox is a toxin produced by the bacteria *Clostridium botulinum*," explains Dr Crimston. "It binds to nerves to enervate certain muscles, which stops them contracting, thus smoothing out the skin."

## HOW DO YOU GUARD AGAINST 'FROZEN FACE' SYNDROME?

"There's a lot of clinics who advertise certain fees, for, say, the forehead or eyes, but I find the best results come from a tailored approach. Dosages need to be based on each person's facial structure, muscle bulk and their aims. What you want is for people to think you look great, without knowing why."

## HOW LONG DO THE RESULTS LAST?

"The forehead only has a few muscles so a lower dose is needed and lasts a month or two. In other areas, like crow's-feet, you're looking at three months as more Botox is used. It also takes about two weeks for the full effect to be apparent. Over time, you need less Botox to achieve the same result."

## HOW IS IT ADMINISTERED?

"Fine insulin needles are used to inject the Botox directly into the



**WHAT COSTS ARE INVOLVED?**  
**"IT COMES DOWN TO UNITS USED AND THE PATIENT'S MUSCLE BULK. FOR A FOREHEAD, YOU'RE LOOKING AT \$200 PER SESSION, THREE TIMES A YEAR. A FULL UPPER-FACIAL TREATMENT – FOREHEAD, CROW'S FEET, FROWN LINES – WILL SET YOU BACK \$750 EACH TIME."**

muscle bulk in preset areas determined by consultation. Men tend to need higher doses because of more muscle bulk. Across the forehead, you'll have six injection points."

## DOES IT REALLY STOP SWEATING?

"Botox has proven highly effective in treating *hyperhidrosis*, a condition where people

sweat excessively. Injected directly into areas like the armpits, it's more expensive as larger doses are involved. Medicare has recently authorised funding for this, but it has to be carried out by a dermatologist."

## ANY SIDE EFFECTS TO BE AWARE OF?

"These are minor. There is sometimes the risk of minimal bruising and infection. It's also a good idea not to lie face down for a few hours after having Botox as this pushes the product into areas you don't want. Hence the droopy eyebrow."

## NOT READY FOR THE NEEDLE? TRY THESE.



1. PEVONIA BOTANICA 'LUMAFIRM REPAIR CREAM LIFT & GLOW', \$175 (50ML) & 'FREEZE-DRIED AT HOME INTENSIFIER', \$55 (3g)

These are a virtual medi-spa in your bathroom cabinet. [pevonia.com.au](http://pevonia.com.au)

2. SKIN DOCTORS 'BETOXY', \$59.95 (50ml)

Like being lightly stung, it prompts the skin to produce line-diminishing elastin and collagen. [skindoctors.com.au](http://skindoctors.com.au)

3. STRIVECTIN 'TIGHTENING AND SCULPTING FACE & NECK CREAM', \$98 (50ml)

Rich in vitamin B3, it boosts the ability to retain collagen. [strivectin.com.au](http://strivectin.com.au)



## THE UPDATE

# BLADE RUNNER

Starting at \$399.95, with a top end of \$599.95, you'd expect the Philips '9000 Series' electric shaver to deliver. And it does. Capable of flexing in eight directions, it trims 20 per cent more hair in a single pass, which means less skin irritation. The device can be used wet or dry, runs cordless for 50 minutes and cleans itself while charging. Tidy. [shavershop.com.au](http://shavershop.com.au)



## BEARD ADMIN

Given Tom Ford is the master of just-so stubble, it's hardly surprising his beard care ticks every box. Ford's signature 'Neroli Portofino', 'Tobacco Vanille' and 'Oud Wood' scents have been reformulated into beard oils, \$70 (30ml) each, while the beard comb, \$52, is perfect to disperse the oil through facial hair. [davidjones.com.au](http://davidjones.com.au)

## 3 OF THE BEST MASQUES

1. KEVIN.MURPHY 'HYDRATE-ME' HAIR MASQUE, \$49.95 (200ml)  
Product build-up, sweat and hours spent in an air-conditioned environment lead to dull hair and flaking. Apply this blend of evening primrose and rose hip oils, seaweed and Kakadu plum to clean hair. Massage it into the scalp and leave for up to 10 minutes then rinse and style as normal for a glossier, healthier look. [kevinmurphy.com.au](http://kevinmurphy.com.au)

2. DERMALOGICA 'AGE SMART MULTIVITAMIN POWER RECOVERY' MASQUE, \$68 (75ml)  
Don't let the word 'age' deter you. This 10-minute cocktail of vitamins A, C, E, F and B5 is for anyone who's ever had to battle hangover face in time for a morning meet. Pop a couple of Panadol and you're good to go. [dermalogica.com.au](http://dermalogica.com.au)

3. KYOKU FOR MEN 'LAVA' MASQUE, \$41 (142g)  
Darker than a Dexter nightmare, this blend of volcanic mud and black sand quickly and effectively draws impurities from skin. Just make sure you rinse before heading out. [pureman.com.au](http://pureman.com.au)



THE CUT

Located at Justin Hemmes' new hotspot, Sydney's Coogee Pavilion, Rudy's is a retro two-chair affair displaying traditional cutting and shaving skills. A dry cut comes in at \$45, a cutthroat shave is \$60, and you can also stock up on KMS California products. [rudysbarbershopsydney.com.au](http://rudysbarbershopsydney.com.au)



# LEARNINGS FROM LEADERS IN LUXURY

Evolution & Relevance

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2015 | The Art Gallery of New South Wales



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Global Retail Leader  
Woods Bagot



**Julie Ann Morrison**  
Director Metaphor.etc  
Former Managing  
Director Bulgari  
UK & Australia



**Glen Sealey**  
General Manager  
Maserati Australia &  
New Zealand



**Paul Zahra**  
Retail Expert & Former  
CEO & Managing  
Director David Jones



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 **3 DEGREES**  
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# TASTE & TRAVEL

Food

WHERE TO EAT

THE TOP CHEF

KNIFE SKILLS

HOW TO ROAST

## MATT MORAN THE ESSENTIALS

UP YOUR KITCHEN SKILLS WITH SOUND ADVICE FROM  
A GQ MAN OF THE YEAR AND CHEF AT THE TOP OF HIS GAME.

THE RIGHT CUT

THE PERFECT CRUST

GROWING HERBS

**T**here are no tales of familial culinary inspiration in the personal book of Matt Moran's gravitation to cooking. No, for this country kid, it was simply a way out.

Raised on standard rustic cooking that meant daily meat and three veg, Moran's entree into the kitchen, he says, was as an escape – a trade that would get him out of school.

"I saw cheffing as a job," he says today. "It wasn't until I started actually cooking, using fresh produce and learning, that I fell in love with it."

The etiquette of a commercial kitchen had a major impact on the 45-year-old. "I had no discipline until I had my butt kicked in the kitchen. And I thrived on it.

"It was hard work, 90 hours, six days a week, but I just thought that was normal."

Given his burgeoning empire of seven restaurants, a catering company, books and TV series, *Paddock to Plate*, it's obvious those same 90-hour weeks of hard graft served him well.

"Well, work isn't work when it's a passion. I was mentoring some kids a few years ago and one asked, 'how long will it take to learn everything?'"

The question prompted Moran to pause: "I've been doing it 25 years and I still have no idea," boomed the reply.

Such words provide further insight into the backbone of Moran's success: humility and a hunger for knowledge.

"You're always learning – the moment you think you know everything is the moment you've lost the fight."

Talk to Moran and often the conversation will steer towards the wealth of fortune we have as Australians – particularly as it relates to cooking and the raw materials on offer.

"We have the most amazing produce here," he says. "As a chef, to be able to work with that is incredible. It's given us the confidence to hold our own with any other country."

He's also seen a strong shift in our social constructs – certainly in regard to men in the kitchen.

"When I was young, it was always mum in the kitchen – I guess it was for a lot of us back then – but we've moved on from that. Now men are either cooking or are genuinely interested in cooking... And if they're not, time to pull out your fingers, guys, because cooking is a beautiful thing, and knowing even the basics can change your life."

### ROASTING TIPS



### THE CUT

"I've used a 21-day dry-aged, grass-fed four-rib rack. Essentially, it's scotch fillet with the bone on and is one of the best cuts to slow roast because the meat is sweeter around the bone. Anything on the bone will take longer, but if you prefer to give the bone a miss, try roasting a whole rump."

### THE CRUST

"Everyone likes roast beef with mustard. I decided to do a bit of a twist on that theme by putting a mustard crust on top of the beef. This brings in those classic flavour combinations and adds another texture to the dish."

### WHERE TO EAT

## Moran's Favourite Restaurants (THAT HE DOESN'T ALREADY OWN)



### MARY'S, SYDNEY

"The 'Breakfast Burger' they do in the city – hash brown, egg, cheese, trashcan bacon, pork shoulder sausage and maple syrup – is unbelievable." 6 Mary St, Newtown; 154 Castlereagh St, CBD; [marys.com.au](http://marys.com.au)



### SUPERNORMAL, MELBOURNE

"Clean flavours and really well executed modern Asian, [owner-chef] Andrew McConnell has a great eye for design as well." 180 Flinders Lane; [supernormal.net.au](http://supernormal.net.au)



### CALI PRESS, SYDNEY

"I go here to get a juice and salad. It's a small place doing great simple, fresh and healthy food, and it's down at Bronte. What more do you need?" 140b MacPherson St, Bronte; [calipress.com.au](http://calipress.com.au)



### BINCHO, SINGAPORE

"This is a Japanese yakitori place tucked away down a laneway. They grill things over hot coals like chicken heart, livers, wings, skins and bums. Sensational." 78 Moh Guan Tce; [bincho.com.sg](http://bincho.com.sg)

## THE RECIPE

### BEEF RIB ROAST WITH MUSTARD AND PARSLEY CRUST

#### INGREDIENTS

#### SERVES 4-6

400g WHOLEGRAIN MUSTARD  
1 BUNCH FLAT-LEAF PARSLEY, ROUGHLY CHOPPED  
20g SALT FLAKES  
2.5kg BEEF RIB ROAST (4 RIBS)

"I've been doing this dish for years now – it has a beautiful flavour and the crust has great texture, while also seasoning the meat thanks to all the salt. It looks impressive when you bring it to the table, like a big crown roast."

1. Preheat the oven to 220°C.
2. Combine the mustard, parsley and salt in a bowl.
3. Place the beef on a wire rack in a roasting pan. Use a spoon to spread the mustard mixture over the top of the beef in a smooth, even layer.
4. Roast the beef for 20 minutes, until the mustard layer has started to form a crust, then reduce the oven temperature to 180°C and roast for a further 45 minutes to 1 hour, until cooked to your liking. (For a medium-rare roast, the core temperature on a meat thermometer will be 51°C.) Take out of the oven, cover loosely with foil, then it's really important to let the meat rest for 30 minutes or so before slicing to serve.

*Matt's Kitchen Garden  
Cookbook, Penguin; \$49.99*

#### THE SIDES

"I don't like to put any sort of meat directly on a pan to roast, be it chicken, pork or beef. I like to have something on the bottom to protect it. Potatoes and sweet potatoes are great for this. Not only do they protect the meat, they take in all the juices and flavour from the meat, crisp up and it's all bloody delicious."

Stainless steel 'Cook's' knife, \$159, by Global; [globalknives.com.au](http://globalknives.com.au)

## THE KIT

### KEEP YOUR KNIFE SHARP

You're only as good as your tools – right? Maybe not. Still, having a sharp blade is key to great cooking.

Time, then, to go and buy yourself a blade sharpener (below) or sharpening stone.

"The most important thing, of course, is to have a sharp knife in the first place," says Moran. "You get that by sliding it along the stone until you have a beautiful edge. Really, it's about putting it on the steel every time you use it. Whenever you go into a butchers, they're always putting knives on the steel. To keep yours sharp, don't throw them in the utensils drawer because once you knock the edges, they become blunt. Instead, keep them in a pouch or roll them up into a bag and look after the edges."



## MUST-HAVE HERBS



**THERE'S NOTHING BETTER THAN FRESH HERBS. STUCK IN AN APARTMENT WITH NO OUTDOOR SPACE? NO BOTHER – GRAB A SMALL TRAY AND PLACE THEM ON THE WINDOWSILL. AS LONG AS YOU HAVE ACCESS TO SUN, AND WATER THEM EVERY DAY, THERE'S NO REASON THEY SHOULDN'T GROW.**

#### ROSEMARY

"It's one of the toughest herbs," says Moran, "so if you get this one wrong, you're really not looking after it. Rosemary brings depth and fragrance to meats, vegetables – just about anything."



#### PARSLEY

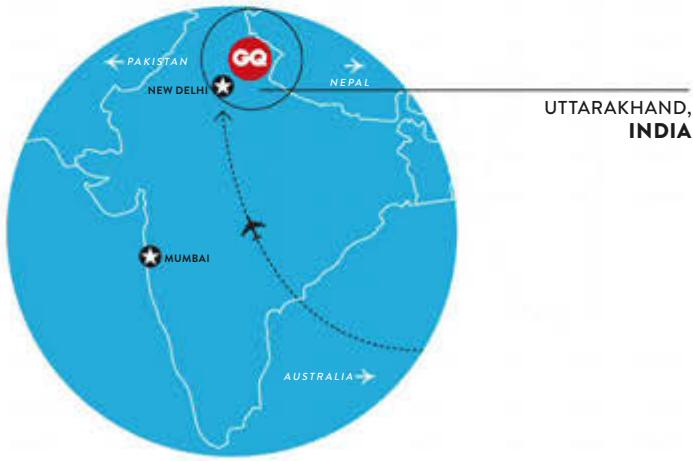
"This is a herb you can use daily. Make sure it gets good sun, but don't let it get out of control as it's essentially a weed and will grow quickly. Just try to contain it so it doesn't take over."



#### BASIL

"Basil needs as much fertiliser as possible but too much water will ruin it. I get a real buzz from picking my own basil and tomatoes, and plating them with mozzarella and balsamic, knowing I've grown it all myself." ■





UTTARAKHAND, INDIA

# TREKKING IN THE HIMALAYAS

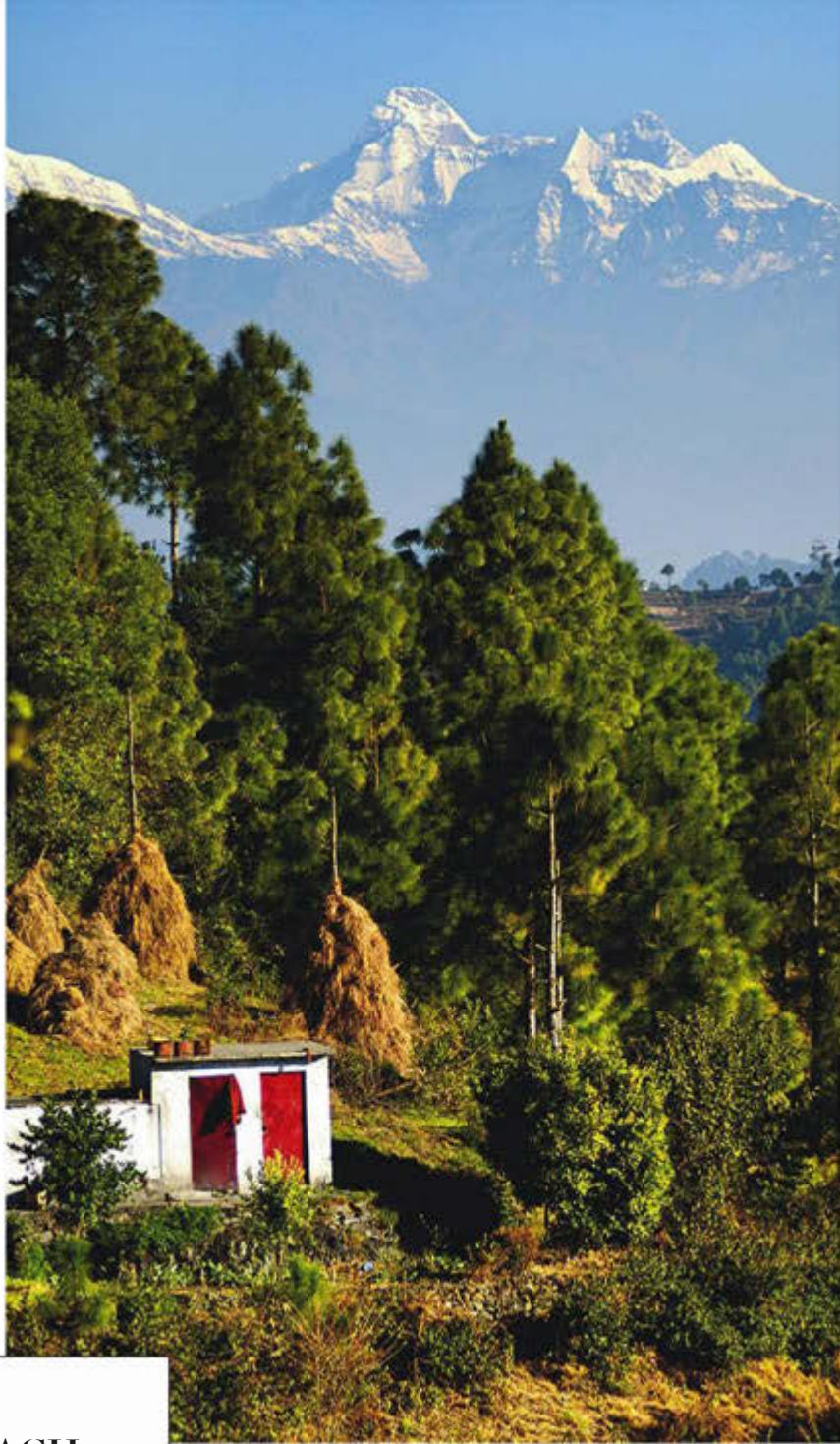
UTTARAKHAND: TRANQUIL, REMOTE AND NOTHING LIKE THE INDIA YOU THINK YOU KNOW.

**C**resting a hill, *GQ* is greeted by a sweeping vista of rural bliss. A shepherd noisily ushers his cattle up a dirt track as a woman, in vibrant orange and pink, washes clothes in the nearby stream below. Further away, a man collects mud for construction, while in a neighbouring field a farmer teaches his son how to guide a buffalo-drawn plough. Each person we pass smiles and greets us with *namaste*, their hands pressed together. No one tries to sell anything; no one asks for money.

This is the India most visitors don't see – an India so far removed from the chaotic, rickshaw-choked cities it's hard to believe you're in the same country.

This slice of India involves hiking Himalayan foothills in Uttarakhand, 360km north-east of New Delhi. The trip is the brainchild of Shakti Himalaya, an operator specialising in guided walks through remote India. Instead of hotels, Shakti has partnered with local communities to provide accommodation in renovated village houses. The first night has us sleeping in a 300-year-old stone farmhouse with shuttered windows, exposed wooden beams and

EACH PERSON WE PASS SMILES AND GREETS US WITH NAMASTE, THEIR HANDS PRESSED TOGETHER.



glorious views over a tree-blanketed plunging valley. Staying in the heart of a remote village like Deora means you wake to the soundtrack of rural life: dogs barking; excited children chattering next door; pots clanging in a nearby kitchen. As breakfast is served, children trot off to school while their grandmothers wander to a pump to fill buckets of water.

It doesn't take long to realise women do the lion's share of the work here. During the trip, we cross paths with countless elegantly-dressed ladies balancing large loads on their heads. Often there's a man following behind, 'managing' the operation and invariably carrying nothing at all. "Take me with you," jokes one lady in Hindi as she ambles past, her face barely visible beneath a towering bundle of hay.



FROM LEFT:  
THE HIMALAYAS  
OVERLOOKING  
THE INDIAN  
REGION OF  
UTTARAKHAND;  
ONE OF THE  
VILLAGES ON  
THE TREK;  
THE VIEW FROM  
360° LETI.

## THE FACTS



### GETTING THERE

Air India is the only carrier to fly direct to New Delhi from Sydney. From here, it's a 5½ hr train ride to Kathgodam, where the tour begins. Returning to New Delhi, there's a direct Air India flight from Pantnagar. [airindia.in](http://airindia.in)



### ACCOMMODATION

Trips run from October to April. A seven-night package, including village walks and three nights at 360° Leti, costs from \$6170. This includes accommodation, meals, drinks, guides and transfers. Shaktihimalaya.com



### TIPS

- Australians are now eligible for tourist visas on arrival in the country.
- The local dialect varies by region, but most people understand Hindi so learn the basics: *namaste* (hello) and *shukriya* (thanks).
- December – January temperatures can drop to zero, so pack warm layers.
- Access to ATMs is limited once you're trekking so get cash out in New Delhi.
- Recommended reading: *Footloose in the Himalaya*, by Bill Aitken, is a funny account of the author's travels in the region.

You could happily spend a week trekking between the three village houses but most guests combine this with a trip to 360° Leti, Shakti's stunning private lodge, located – even more improbably – on a tiny 2230 metre-high plateau in the shadow of the Himalayas. When built in 2007, there was no access road, so all building materials were carried up by local porters. Today, a road of sorts exists, but the eight-hour ascent is still one of relentless switchbacks, potholes and vertiginous drops. Is it worth it? Absolutely.

With its dry stone walls, teak furniture and brass fittings, our villa is a masterclass in rustic luxury – not to mention a coma-inducing king-size bed, wood-burning stove and spacious ensuite bathroom. But the crowning glory is the mesmerising view over the Himalayan foothills towards the ice-white Hiramani Glacier through floor-to-ceiling windows.

With limited phone coverage and no TV or internet, 360° Leti offers that rare opportunity to disconnect. A typical day involves a guided walk to a shrine in nearby villages of Gola or Gogina, followed by an afternoon spent reading or playing backgammon and Scrabble in the communal lounge. At dusk, guests gather for drinks around the fire, before feasting on home-cooked regional food – from chicken biryani to more exotic fare such as *khow suey*, a spicy laksa-like Burmese noodle soup, prepared by Leti's talented, ever-smiling Tibetan chef, Yeshi.

On the last day, alarms are set for the unholiday hour of 5:30am to climb Khadaa Dhunga, the steep hill behind the lodge. The one-kilometre uphill slog takes more than two hours but the reward is a mesmerising 360-degree panorama. In one direction, the Himalayas and the soaring peak of India's second highest mountain Nanda Devi (7816m). In the other, an endless procession of inclines marching towards the horizon. It's a fitting finale: breakfast on top of the world – the ultimate Himalayan high. ■

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THE WORLD'S  
MOST BEAUTIFUL  
DESTINATIONS,  
VISIT  
 [GQ.COM.AU](http://GQ.COM.AU)



Our treks wind through forests of chir pines and rhododendron trees, along rivers fed from Himalayan snowmelt and past remote Hindu temples. The landscape is alive with activity and colour: men collecting sap from pine trees to make turpentine; women weeding fields in a kaleidoscope of saris; donkeys, goats, sheep and cows being herded between villages.

The 27-year-old guide, Rino, is an intriguing character. With his long black hair, lithe frame and Asian features, he presents as a samurai. Yet he grew up in Arunachal Pradesh, a remote Indian state bordering China, which until 1979 still had tribes of headhunters (of the deadly variety).

He's part of a team of drivers, guides, porters and chefs that seamlessly make this experience possible. On arrival at the second village house, in the late afternoon, our bags are already there and we're welcomed with cold towels and rhododendron juice – a delicious rose-coloured speciality with a sweet aftertaste. And an hour later, beside a roaring fire, GQ is drinking a gin and tonic and snacking on homemade vegetable *pakoras*.

Every house has its own chef and the food is an unexpected highlight. Each day starts with cereals, breads, fresh fruit and eggs; lunch is a scenic picnic of Western-style salads and dinners are extravagant, three-course Indian feasts of soup, curry and side dishes such as sautéed spinach and lentil dahl – all homemade, and all eaten outside on a terrace.

## FOOD UPDATE

## Cocktale (n.)

A SPURIOUS AND/OR SEXIST ANECDOTE TOLD, AT HIGH VOLUME, BY A BAR PATRON ON HIS FIFTH NEGRONI.



## OPENINGS

## SYDNEY

**FIREDOOR**  
Arguably the most anticipated restaurant in years, rockstar chef Lennox Hastie (formerly of Spain's Etxebarri) opens Firedoor this month. Expect seasonally-focused food smoked over the smouldering embers of different woods. Yep – we're there. 23-33 Mary St, Surry Hills

**TIM HO WAN**  
The world's cheapest Michelin-starred restaurant, Hong Kong's Tim Ho Wan, recently landed in Australia – set to challenge Din Tai Fung for the mantle of Down Under dumpling king. The first 100-seater is in Chatswood, with two more Sydney sites planned, as well as Melbourne and Brisbane later in the year. *The Interchange, Chatswood*; [timhowan.com.au](http://timhowan.com.au)

## MELBOURNE

**ROSA'S CANTINA**  
The crew behind legendary Rosa's Kitchen will this month unveil a cucina-style restaurant near MoVida Aqui. The ultimate homage to Rosa Mitchell's Sicilian roots, the new effort will focus on Italian treats from across various regions. *Thomson St (off Little Bourke St), CBD*

## KIT

## DECAF?

Here at GQ, we've long questioned the point of decaffeinated coffee. Still, that hasn't stopped Nespresso appeasing increased Australian desires to decrease our collective, daily caffeine intake by delivering a new range of decaf 'grands crus'. Available in three extra flavours and intensities, we can vouch that the 'Decaffeinato' series, thankfully, tastes just like the good stuff. [nespresso.com.au](http://nespresso.com.au)



## THE TREND

## NOSE (AND SCALE) TO TAIL

WE KNOW WE'RE MEANT TO EAT MORE FISH – BUT THE HEAD (AND LIVER)? WELL, YES.

'Give it a kiss on the lips' might be a common expression when fishermen reel in a big one, but it's a quip you'll start hearing in restaurants too.

We've been overfed by the ethos of red meat's 'nose to tail' enthusiasts, and chefs are now starting to deliver the same approach to fish.

"There's a lot more to fish than just a fillet," says Steve Hodges, of Sydney's Fish Face. "Fish cooked on the bone helps retain moisture in the flesh; you get a more gelatinous, unctuous eating experience and you get to taste the true flavours. And bones also hold the heat so well that you can cook fish at a lower temperature."

Plate-sized whole fish, namely John Dory, flounder and snapper are leading the new approach, with chefs plating up tuna heads smoked over charcoal, coral trout tails slow-poached on the bone, kingfish collars deep fried as bar snacks and even various livers in salads.

Yep, if you're talking sustainability, respect for the whole beast and a damn delicious dinner, time to get hooked on whole fish.



## Where To Eat A 'Whole' Fish

01 **SYDNEY**  
**BILLY KWONG**  
Deep-fried, braised kingfish collar, caramelised tomato and native basil. 28 Macleay St, Potts Point; [billykwong.com.au](http://billykwong.com.au)

02 **FISH FACE**  
Seared John Dory liver, parsley, lemon. 346 New South Head Rd, Double Bay; [fishfaceaustralia.com.au](http://fishfaceaustralia.com.au)

03 **SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS**  
**BIOTA DINING**  
Snapper dorsal, white soy mayonnaise. 18 Kangaroo Rd, Bowral; [biotadining.com.au](http://biotadining.com.au)

04 **MELBOURNE**  
**IZAKAYA DEN**  
Robata grilled kingfish head. 114 Russell St; [izakayaden.com.au](http://izakayaden.com.au)

05 **ADELAIDE**  
**AFRICOLA**  
Pacific Reef North Queensland Cobia liver with bay leaf and boom chakalaka (a spin on Sowetan relish). 4 East Terrace; [africola.com.au](http://africola.com.au)

## TRAVEL UPDATE



## HOW TO SLEEP ON A PLANE

CAN'T AFFORD FIRST CLASS? NOT A PROBLEM – JUST BE SURE TO TAKE ON BOARD THESE TIPS FROM TRAVEL DOCTOR, TMVC'S NATALIE GRAY.

## 1. CHOOSE YOUR SEAT WISELY

"A window seat gives you something to lean on and you won't be disturbed," says Gray. "Just type your flight number into [seatguru.com](http://seatguru.com) to view a map of the plane before take-off."

## 2. ACCESSORISE

An eye mask and neck pillow (top tip: wear it backwards) help create a more natural sleeping environment. "Noise-cancelling headphones are also a great investment."

## 3. AVOID ALCOHOL AND CAFFEINE

It pays to be Captain Sensible as, "Alcohol contributes to dehydration and coffee never helps. And never take sleeping tablets if you can't lie flat as they increase the risk of deep vein thrombosis."

## 4. DRESS FOR COMFORT

Wear loose clothes and take layers given the temperature can vary. "And buckle up your seatbelt over any blankets, so flight attendants won't have to wake you during turbulence." Noted.



## THE RUNNING GAME

GIVEN THE GROWING TREND TO COMBINE FITNESS WITH SIGHTSEEING, IT'S TIME TO PACK TRAINERS.

Men aren't known for their ability to lie on a sun lounger for long. But is beach volleyball enough to cure your lust for holiday adventures? Enter running getaways, a trend gathering speed and just what the personal trainer ordered.

'Sightrunning' is the latest way to see European capitals (check out [gorunningtours.com](http://gorunningtours.com)), or for indulgent trips with hotels and porters thrown in, bespoke companies like [runthealps.com](http://runthealps.com) offer a full service so all you need worry about is blisters.

Closer to home, [tourdetrails.com](http://tourdetrails.com) runs (sorry) luxe tours where you spend a week or so tackling 100km

through the wilderness in exotic locales from the Northern Territory's Larapinta to Bhutan. Founder Chris Ord says such experiences are ideal for high achievers wanting something different from their travels, and promises to take you out of your comfort zone every morning, only to drop you back in it by sunset with a massage, food (even wine) and a bed.

Not hard yakka enough? [travellingfit.com](http://travellingfit.com) helps marry a holiday with a marathon. Book in to the spectacular Big Five run in South Africa or the Great Wall race in Tianjin Province, and use it as a jumping-off point. Not literally, of course.

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PERCENTAGE OF MEN WHO CONSIDER DECENT SHOPPING IMPORTANT WHEN CHOOSING A TRAVEL DESTINATION.\*

THE PURCHASE

LEATHER WALLET,  
\$495, BY COACH;  
[COACH.COM.AU](http://COACH.COM.AU)



## IN THE KNOW

1. Travelling to Adelaide? Recently unveiled, The Mayfair is a five-star boutique hotel offering luxury rooms and refined dining right by Rundle Mall. [mayfairhotel.com.au](http://mayfairhotel.com.au)
2. With stunning views of St Mark's Square, private pools, four restaurants and a wine academy, artisan meets luxury at the JW Marriott Venice Resort and Spa. *Salute.* Opens later this month. [marriott.com.au](http://marriott.com.au)



# LISBON

A LIVELY MIX OF BEACHES, BARS AND BAROQUE BUILDINGS MAKES THE PORTUGUESE CAPITAL A EUROPEAN MUST-SEE.

There's a youthful scene being played out here – a newfound energy and cool factor that has Portugal's largest city rightly stealing some attention from its dominant Spanish cousins.

Lisboetas unwind in the rejuvenating waters of the public baths in the bohemian district of Alfama, they surf renowned Atlantic breaks at beautiful *Praia do Guincho*, and they exist on suckling pig and high-end seafood. When night falls, they slip past Iberian *jamon* shops and art galleries and into the classy clubs and bars of Bairro Alto – some tucked into the back of baroque churches, others in reinvented 17<sup>th</sup>-century homes – or on the renovated riverfront area.

It's about art, it's about the outdoors and it's about embracing life.



## PLAN

From intimate cafe settings to cobblestoned squares, Lisbon is one of Europe's great musical cities. The International Festival of Classic Guitar makes women swoon, the Gulbenkian Gardens hosts the Jazz in August festival, while the Estoril Music Festival (July) gives some of the biggest names in Europe a reason to rub shoulders at extravagant parties.

## STAY

Tucked in one of Lisbon's nightlife centres, Hotel Britanica is a slick, art-nouveau holdover from the 1940s, where the main man behind the bar, Mr Jefferson, scratches together some serious cocktails. Elsewhere, Hotel Avenida Palace pairs elegance and history – with some of the windows better dressed than you. [heritage.pt](http://heritage.pt); [hotelavenidapalace.pt](http://hotelavenidapalace.pt)

## DO

The BaixAnima Street Festival runs from July to September – think large block parties, theatre, ongoing parades and more. The art scene is also worthy of some time – from the impressive street art, to Berardo Museum, Museu Calouste Gulbenkian (the airy grounds and architecture are equally as enticing as the Western and Oriental collections) and newcomer, Museu do Oriente, located in a former fish warehouse. [museudooriente.pt](http://museudooriente.pt); [museuberardo.pt](http://museuberardo.pt); [gulbenkian.pt](http://gulbenkian.pt)

## EAT

Portuguese meals are bigger, and flavours bolder, than those across the Spanish border. Snails, piled high and tossed in garlic and butter, are a common tavern snack, while suckling pig (imported from the Bairrada region)

is an institution (the beast at Sacramento is the best). Seafood is also a staple – book Michelin-starred Belcanto if you can, or, failing that, head to chef José Avillez's more casual effort, Cantinho. Egg tarts might be touristy, but they're also delicious and worth queuing for at Pastéis de Belém. [sacramentodochiado.com](http://sacramentodochiado.com); [belcanto.pt](http://belcanto.pt); [cantinhodoavillez.pt](http://cantinhodoavillez.pt); [pasteisdebellem.pt](http://pasteisdebellem.pt)

## DRINK

Yes, port comes from Portugal (specifically the city of Porto), and the Portuguese like a good tipple. Lisboa Solar, at the Port Institute, features a large selection of this high-test wine, while Garrafeira Alfaia is a relaxed wine bar serving local cheeses too. Wind down with a spirit of choice at the Clube de Fado, Lisbon's most popular fado (traditional music) bar. [garrafeiraalfaia.com](http://garrafeiraalfaia.com); [clubede-fado.com](http://clubede-fado.com)

## SHOP

The Portuguese have a ridiculous fascination with roosters (said to bring luck) so snaffle one at A Arte da Terra, housed in a former bishop's palace. Elsewhere, the Chiado is a funky warren of 18<sup>th</sup>-century streets bustling with cafes and boutiques, a scene further ameliorated in the upmarket Bairro Alto.

## SEE

Cathedral fatigue will set in when touring Lisbon's ancient attractions. Inside São Roque Church is the world's most expensive chapel; while St John the Baptist's shrine was built with tons of gold appropriated from colonial Brazil. Erected in the 1500s, the Belém Tower is an icon of the Age of Discovery. It's also helpful in navigating the path home after a long night out.

DRINKS

# AUSSIE SPIRIT

AN EVER-INCREASING NUMBER OF BOUTIQUE DISTILLERS ARE MOVING AUSTRALIAN LIQUOR TO THE TOP SHELF.

## SMALL MOUTH VODKA

\$62 (500ml)

This new kid on the block combines an organic and Aussie twist that may confound the Russians, but hell, we love it. Sweet, almost vanilla on the nose with a long, full-bodied finish and citrus aftertaste. [smallmouthvodka.com](http://smallmouthvodka.com)

## CRAZY UNCLE MOONSHINE

\$70 (700ml)

Essentially an unaged bourbon (in Australia we can't actually call it bourbon), try a big nip with two freshly-squeezed Granny Smith apples. [whippersnapperdistillery.com](http://whippersnapperdistillery.com)

## FOUR PILLARS 'RARE DRY' GIN

\$70 (700ml)

An Australian gin that's mildly spicy with great citrus notes and a warm pepper hit. Its secret? The use of fresh fruit – whole oranges and lemon myrtle instead of lemon rind. [fourpillarsgin.com.au](http://fourpillarsgin.com.au)

## BELGROVE RYE WHISKY

\$145 (500ml)

The most 'closed loop' 100 per cent rye whisky on earth – think dill and pickle aromas, medium dry chamomile tea, sourdough-bread notes and a dry, tannic finish. [belgrovedistillery.com.au](http://belgrovedistillery.com.au)



WORDS: ANTHONY HUCKSTEP. PHOTOGRAPHY: EDWARD URRUTIA.

For too long, an engrained Australian cultural cringe led to looking at overseas as best. Fancy a new car – go German. Want a new TV series – try Scandinavian. Keen for a decent drop of liquor – *anywhere* but here.

Well, it's time to pour out such snobbish opinions with Australian small-batch spirit distillers producing

seriously good gin, rye whisky, vodka, moonshine – you name it.

Drinks expert Mike Bennie believes the emergence of local distilleries is a direct result of Australia's evolving culinary landscape.

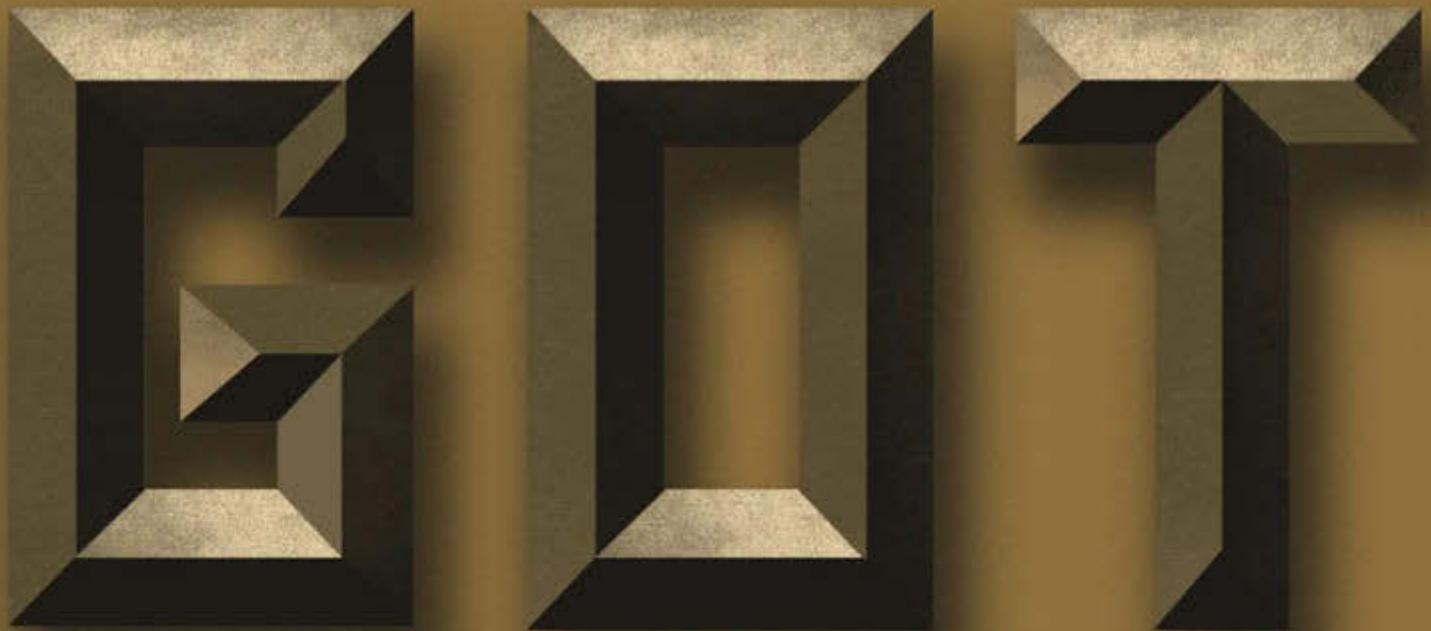
"Better eating leads to better drinking," he says. "And spirits are at that place where the Australian wine industry first kicked off in regards to maturity, but they've been able to

approach it with a lot more freedom, and a lot less kowtowing to the canon of conservative consumption."

Essentially, our distilleries are ignoring what we're told to drink, and how we're told to drink it. Instead, they're using great technique to produce the type of spirits they want to drink. And as a result, we're benefiting from exciting, unique flavours. Cheers to that.

  
DON'T MISS OUR ENHANCED DIGITAL EDITION, AVAILABLE ON THE APP STORE AND GOOGLE PLAY.

# THEY

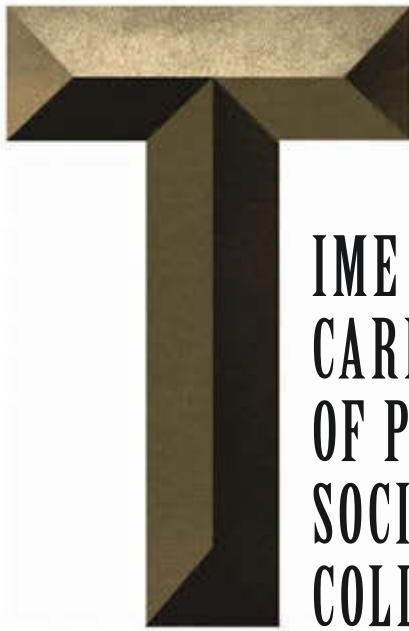


# GAME

SOAKED IN BLOOD AND UNAPOLOGETIC BRUTALITY, NEVER BEFORE HAS A TV SERIES SLAYED LONG-HELD PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS ABOUT THE FANTASY GENRE.

WORDS BRENDAN SHANAHAN PHOTOGRAPHY RICHARD RAMOS & PAOLA KUDACKI





# IME WAS, OUTING ONESELF AS A CARD-CARRYING FANTASY FANATIC EVOKED IMAGES OF PALE YOUNG MEN IN POSSESSION OF LIMITED SOCIAL SKILLS AND LOVINGLY-CURATED COLLECTIONS OF TWELVE-SIDED DICE.

Or worse. Certainly such an admission acted as an expert passion killer – women beating a collective and hasty late-night retreat upon eyeing bookshelves bulging with titles like *The Strumpet's Madrigal* or *The Wizard's Limp Staff*. For the most part, affection for fantasy – like being a born-again Christian or a fan of furry culture, or both – was something best kept to oneself.

Then came *Game of Thrones*.

In less than five years, and for the first time since Tolkien invented the genre, the fantasy epic has done the seemingly improbable and achieved mainstream respectability. (*The Lord of the Rings* was an entertaining box-office success, but wasn't the kind of thing grown-ups should take too much interest in.)

Here, in the *GoT*-sphere, eggheads hold cerebral, roundtable discussions about the series in the pages of *The Atlantic* while Barack Obama has advance seasons couriered to the White House.

Broad critical acclaim is just one half of *GoT*'s achievement – fevered popularity the other. Indeed, the series has overtaken *The Sopranos* to become the most popular HBO program, US ratings swelling to the point where the average per-episode audience hits 18.4 million. Locally, it's Foxtel's highest-rated non-sporting broadcast and the fifth season, due on Australian screens April 13, looks set to be even bigger.

So, why is it that many of the people who once turned their noses up at a romp featuring bitter Icelandic landscapes stocked with dragons, are now prepared to immerse themselves in the politics of an imaginary kingdom and the dynastic squabbles of the Starks and Lannisters?

Just how did *GoT* win over the world?



I read the pilot and when I got the first script, it was clear the story was about these people and families and a constant battle for power."

Danish-born Coster-Waldau is a *GoT* success story – part of a generation of actors whose international careers have been launched as a result of the show. Once a star in his home country, and a supporting player in American and European productions, *GoT* has propelled the 44-year-old to rom-com-with-Cameron Diaz status (the pair's 2014 film, *The Other Woman*, an unexpected hit).

Polite and thoughtful in his responses, Coster-Waldau's charm is amplified by a self-deprecating, very Scandinavian sense of humour – one that occasionally gets lost in translation when filming in America.

"It's the same with Australians [in America] – sometimes you have to say that it was a joke, right?"

As he correctly notes, at its heart, *GoT* is about people and their relationship to power – either wielding it or shielding themselves from it. But there's more to this show than the self-evident and many efforts have been made to articulate its appeal – the series described as everything from a "parable about the consequences of unchecked realpolitik" (*Foreign Affairs* magazine) to an allegory for climate change (*London Review of Books*).

"When I was first told about *Game of Thrones*, I didn't know the books, anything," says Nikolaj Coster-Waldau, who plays Jaime Lannister. "So

"I don't think it's as complex as people make it," said Kit Harington, recently, when quizzed on the phenomenon.

Like others central to the show, the 28-year-old, liquid-eyed British heartthrob, who plays Jon Snow (bastard son of the Lord Stark of Winterfell), is reluctant to indulge too much grandiose theorising.

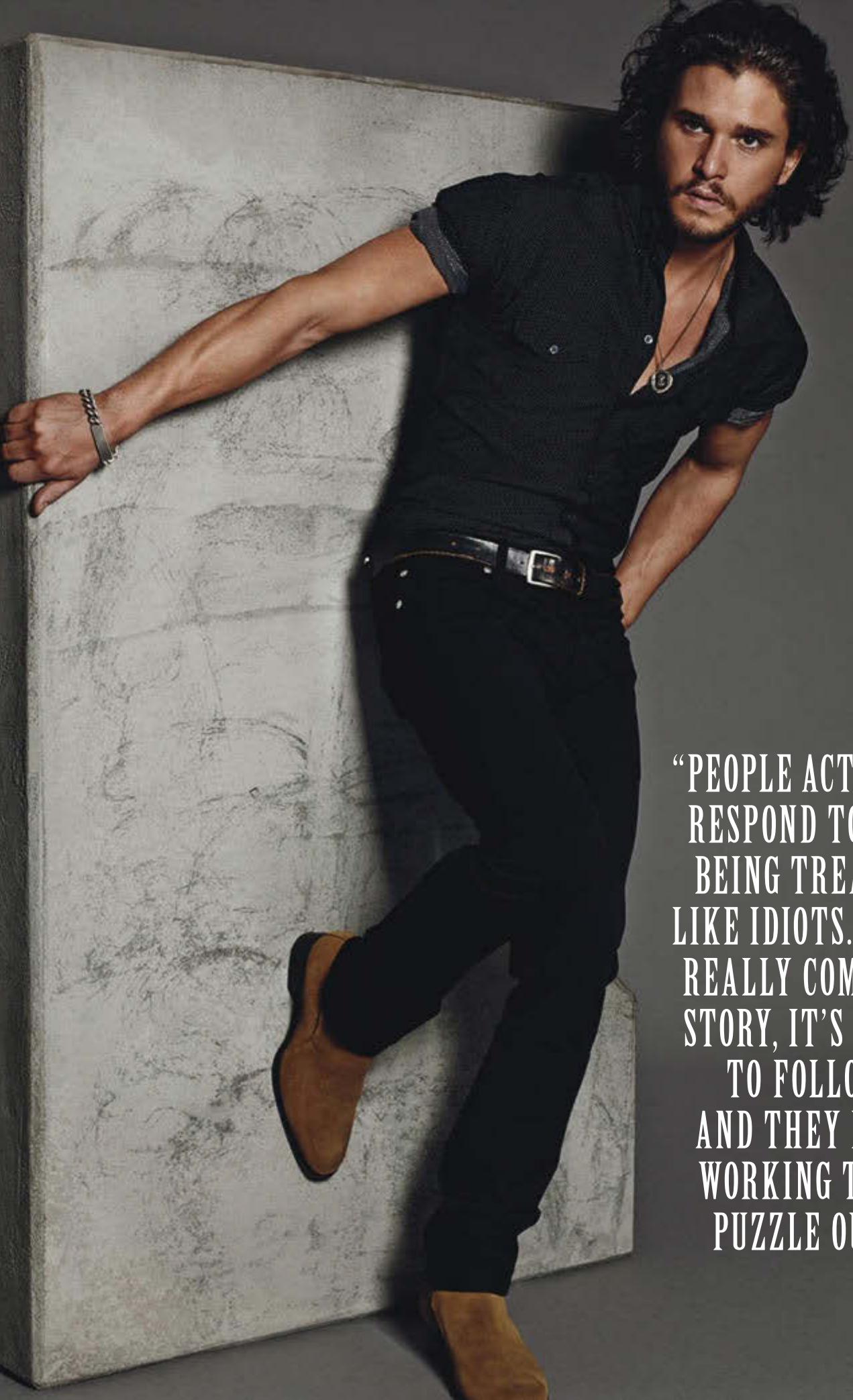
"People actually respond to not being treated like idiots. It's a really complex story, it's hard to follow, and people love working that puzzle out. I mean, essentially, people like it is because it's a rollicking good story with sex and violence."

Ask most about their attachment to the show and reasons are usually pretty simple: boobs, murder, dragons – what's not to like? But there's a deeper allure, one that tugs as strongly on our lizard brains – hungry as they are for sprays of arterial blood and glimpses inside Littlefinger's brothel – as it does on our higher faculties of reasoning and conscience.

It was in a separate interview that Harington allowed for a more complex reading of the series and his character's particular appeal.

"The show started when the economy was bad. People were looking for a hero trying to make his way through a dark world they didn't understand. That's Jon Snow," he said.

As *GoT* began development in 2007, the Financial Crisis struck. Though it didn't debut until 2011 (and it's unlikely that it was conceived as an intentional allegory for the state of the economy), it's feasible there was a certain shock of recognition among viewers – unconscious or otherwise. After all, in the midst of a sudden economic cataclysm – during which previously understood moral norms were entirely inverted and ordinary



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SCENES FROM  
GAME OF THRONES,  
FEATURING TYRION  
LANNISTER (RIGHT,  
PLAYED BY PETER  
DINKLAGE).



LEFT: JON SNOW  
(KIT HARINGTON).  
BELOW: DAENERYS  
TARGARYEN (EMILIA  
CLARKE) AND  
TORMUND GIANTSBAKE  
(KRISTOfer HIVJU), ONE  
OF THE WILDINGS.

FOR MORE GAME  
OF THRONES  
COVERAGE,  
VISIT  
**GQ**.COM.AU



people lost their homes while the one per cent pocketed hundreds of millions for ruining companies – there seemed a distinct possibility that the world (the First World, at any rate) could slide back into, not just medieval chaos, but medieval feudalism. Suddenly, *Game of Thrones* and its cast of toiling peasants and scavenging “wildlings”, ruled by an elite of debauched, cynical, infinitely-wealthy autocratic overlords, didn’t seem particularly fantastical, so much as a documentary about the state of contemporary capitalism.

Like Harington, Coster-Waldau is reluctant to be dragged into esoteric conjectures. Though he does hold thoughts on the reasons for the show’s appeal.

“It’s probably a combination [of theories],” he tells *GQ*. “Firstly, it’s not specific in its geography. That makes it easier for everyone to accept. It’s not set in Detroit or Sydney, it’s Westeros. So it could be anywhere. [But] I really do believe that it’s what the writers did with these characters that makes it interesting. They’re also good at holding onto that element of ‘no one’s safe’, which is something George RR Martin wanted to have in his books. Just because it’s a main character, that doesn’t guarantee survival.”

What Coster-Waldau refers to as the ‘no one’s safe’ element is a Martin trademark – and a key to the narrative genius of *Game of Thrones*. “The moment the reader begins to believe a character is protected by the magical cloak of authorial immunity,” said Martin, last year, “tension goes out the window.”

True, but this same lack of immunity is much more than a narrative trick; a mechanism for ensuring our attention. The very unfairness of the *GoT* universe – the fact good people die and evil is sometimes rewarded – is the show’s wizardry and central attraction; *GoT* makes room for serious doubt: good does not necessarily triumph, and its depiction of multi-faceted characters means our assumptions and capacity for empathy are continually tested.

# “THE MOMENT THE READER BEGINS TO BELIEVE A CHARACTER IS PROTECTED BY THE MAGICAL CLOAK OF AUTHORIAL IMMUNITY, TENSION GOES OUT THE WINDOW.”

O

Of the vast number of characters in *Game of Thrones*, none embody the moral ambiguity at the heart of the show more than Jaime Lannister. Reviled by the

citizens of Westeros as ‘the Kingslayer’ (as part of his backstory he infamously murdered King Aerys II Targaryen despite having taken a solemn vow to forever protect him), he starts life in this fantastical universe as a figure of seemingly irredeemable evil. In the very first episode he pushes the 10-year-old Bran Stark (Isaac Hempstead-Wright) from a tower window after the curious child accidentally witnesses an incestuous tryst between Jaime and his sister, Cersei (Lena Headey). He survives, just, but without the use of his legs.

Slowly, however, in a tribute to the quality of show’s writing, Jaime Lannister is transformed. By season two, the viewer is compelled to regard him as a flawed if, ultimately, sympathetic and fully-realised person. Like Alex in *Clockwork Orange*, or *Lolita*’s Humbert Humbert, he is one of fiction’s great antiheroes.

Part of his contrary appeal is the gulf between the viewer’s perceptions of Jaime and the perceptions of him held by the

people of Westeros – they think they know him but we know they don’t. And this sense of being misunderstood, of being prejudged by a public persona, is surely a condition that has strong resonance with actors.

“You’re absolutely right,” says Coster-Waldau. “But most [people] have experienced that. You’ve experienced that – that feeling that you walk into a room and people will already put you in a box based on how old you are, how you look, your gender – then, when they find out what you do for a living, what that means. Likewise, we do it ourselves all the time. We all know the feeling of meeting someone and then being surprised and almost ashamed because we find out this person was nothing [like] what we’d expected. People can relate to that in Jaime.”

Coster-Waldau has nothing but sympathy for his character’s plight. At times, he almost seems defensive of his fictional alter ego. Yes, Jaime sleeps with his sister, but as Coster-Waldau points out, he does love her (“more than she loves him, I’m sure of that”). Besides, such practices were not exactly unheard of in ancient courts. Even Jaime’s infamous attempted child murder can be justified in the context of the deadly, claustrophobic world he inhabits. As Martin argues, Bran Stark’s blabbing would have meant not only Jaime’s death, but that of his entire family.

“What if killing this kid was the only way to save your life and those of your sister and three children?” asked the author in an interview. “Probably more people than not would say, ‘Yeah, I would kill someone else’s child to save my own child, even if that other child was innocent.’ These are the difficult decisions people make, and they’re worth examining.”

As in life, right and wrong in Westeros is defined by context – characters have a simultaneous capacity for good and evil, and perspective, as in all great art, is everything. Indeed, despite its supernatural elements, *GoT* is no less fantastical than *Sex and the City* or *Entourage*, and could even be said to be more realistic than, say, *Law & Order* or some other cosy procedural drama. Essentially, *Game of Thrones* is only a couple of dragons removed from the invasion of Iraq. Or a family Christmas dinner.

# B

Because of its tendency to ask difficult questions, *Game of Thrones* has become a touchpaper and Rorschach test for matters of contemporary manners and

morals: from leather capes being in season or not, to whether stabbing a pregnant woman in the belly is really a little too much. Whatever the topic, you can guarantee *GoT* fans will discuss it with a passion out of all proportion to the importance of what is, after all, a fictional television event.

For his part, Coster-Waldau is amazed by its capacity to ignite such real feelings.

"That always surprises – some of the things that have become really debated in this show. In season one," he says, offering an example, "there was a scene where Ned Stark [Sean Bean] had to kill one of the Direwolves. This is not a real animal – it's something the show made up. Anyway, he stabs this Direwolf and kills it, and there was this outrage, 'You can't treat animals like that!' Even though it was a fake animal, people were shocked. But then the scene after, you see [Sandor 'the Hound' Clegane played by Rory McCann] riding into camp and he has this butcher's boy slung over his horse. He just hunted down this innocent boy and killed him, but no one was shocked about that."

It was in the fourth season, however, that *Game of Thrones* was dragged into a controversy about rape and the nature of its sexual consent. The scene that launched a thousand blog posts followed the murder of King Joffrey [Jack Gleeson], the deceased offspring of Jaime and Cersei's incestuous relationship. As the body lay in state, the notorious brother and sister conducted a clandestine meeting that ended with Jaime forcing himself on Cersei and, despite her protestations, having sex with her by the body of her dead son.

It was – to invoke a paradox – in bad taste, the kind of thing that makes *Game of Thrones* so horribly, outrageously unpredictable and addictive. The episode's director, Alex Graves, was forced to defend it, arguing it was "ambiguous" and that Cersei "consents by the end". But did it really matter? The women of Westeros could certainly use a copy of *The Female Eunuch* and a local rape crisis centre, but they're still in corsets... and, well, they own dragons.

"I was sure there was going to be a lot of talk about it," says Coster-Waldau of the

episode, "but I assumed it was going to be about the fact we had sex in front of our dead son. But it became more about, 'Was it rape?', which shocked us. I sound naïve, but I never saw it like that.

"It was as if *Game of Thrones* was now social commentary. I was like, 'Really?' And suddenly it was 'pro-rape'. I'm not going to talk about that because it's a sensitive topic. But it's a television show with a storyline featuring two people who have had a dysfunctional relationship. It's clearly not healthy for either of them – that scene being just another example. And suddenly a scene in a television show is used as an argument in an overall political discussion."

Coster-Waldau doesn't consider such debates invalid, just unexpected. He also notes that no one was nearly as shocked by the extreme violence depicted in that same episode, in which rampaging wildlings cannibalised screaming villagers. Granted, prior to the infamous scene with Cersei, Jaime not only tried to murder a little boy but also killed dozens of others (all with little kids, no doubt, begging to know when Daddy would be home), mocked Catelyn Stark [Michelle Fairley] after her husband's execution ("Slip out of that gown and I'll see if I'm up to it.") and tricked and murdered his own cousin in order to escape from prison. But rape your murderous, manipulative lover-sister with whom you've had three incestuous children and only then are you a monster? Either way, the episode caused quite the stir.

"There's no way to predict how things are received," says Coster-Waldau.



With leaked trailers already viral, the excitement for the new season is palpable. Tempering this, however, is the inevitable, and distressing,

anticipation of the show's end. Five seasons is a magic number for an HBO series and some cast members appear to be distancing themselves, taking parts in other projects that seem calculated to counter their *GoT* personas and ensure a post-Westeros career.

Harington, for one, appears a little bit tired of the whole thing.

"If there is a curse of *Thrones*," he said, "it's a lifetime of having to talk about it."

Much of the show's future relies on 66-year-old Martin. The series is fairly faithful to the books with fans hyper-aware the author holds the life of both in his hands. That's why when you Google his name, you stumble into thousands of blog posts, comments, tweets and every other imaginable bit of chatter attacking his slow progress, his terrible work habits, his decision to take holidays, eat, sleep or do anything else but write – in case he dies before it's finished.

"For George it must be really tiring," says Coster-Waldau, "because it's not a real world, yet people get so uptight, as if he's holding part of their family hostage. You want to say it shows how thrilled people are about the whole show, the whole world, but some of the things that are written about him are outrageous. It's crazy. Too much. Way too much."

Will Martin die before he finishes the series? Perhaps, but that's Martin's cross to bear. In an interview last year, he labelled such speculation about his health and mortality offensive. "Fuck you to those people", he said, before flipping the internet the bird.

Of course, even if Martin completes the series, *GoT* will never truly be finished. How could such a complex and paradoxical world ever find a neat resolution? Ultimately, its greatest legacy may not be the show itself, but what it signals for the future of television.

Even in the few years since *Game of Thrones* first aired, television has radically changed. The internet has broken TV's supply chain, making *Game of Thrones* the world's most downloaded show. (Notoriously, Australians are the worst per-capita offenders, responsible for 11.6 per cent of the total international downloads, meaning as many people torrented it as watched it on Foxtel.)

Now with Netflix, Hulu and Amazon offering original content, the business of television is entering unchartered territory – going beyond 'The Wall', if you will. And the shows that will be made over the next decade will reflect that. Will a program as baroque as *Game of Thrones* be seen as a turning point in an ongoing evolution of television, or the closing curtain of the art form's renaissance?

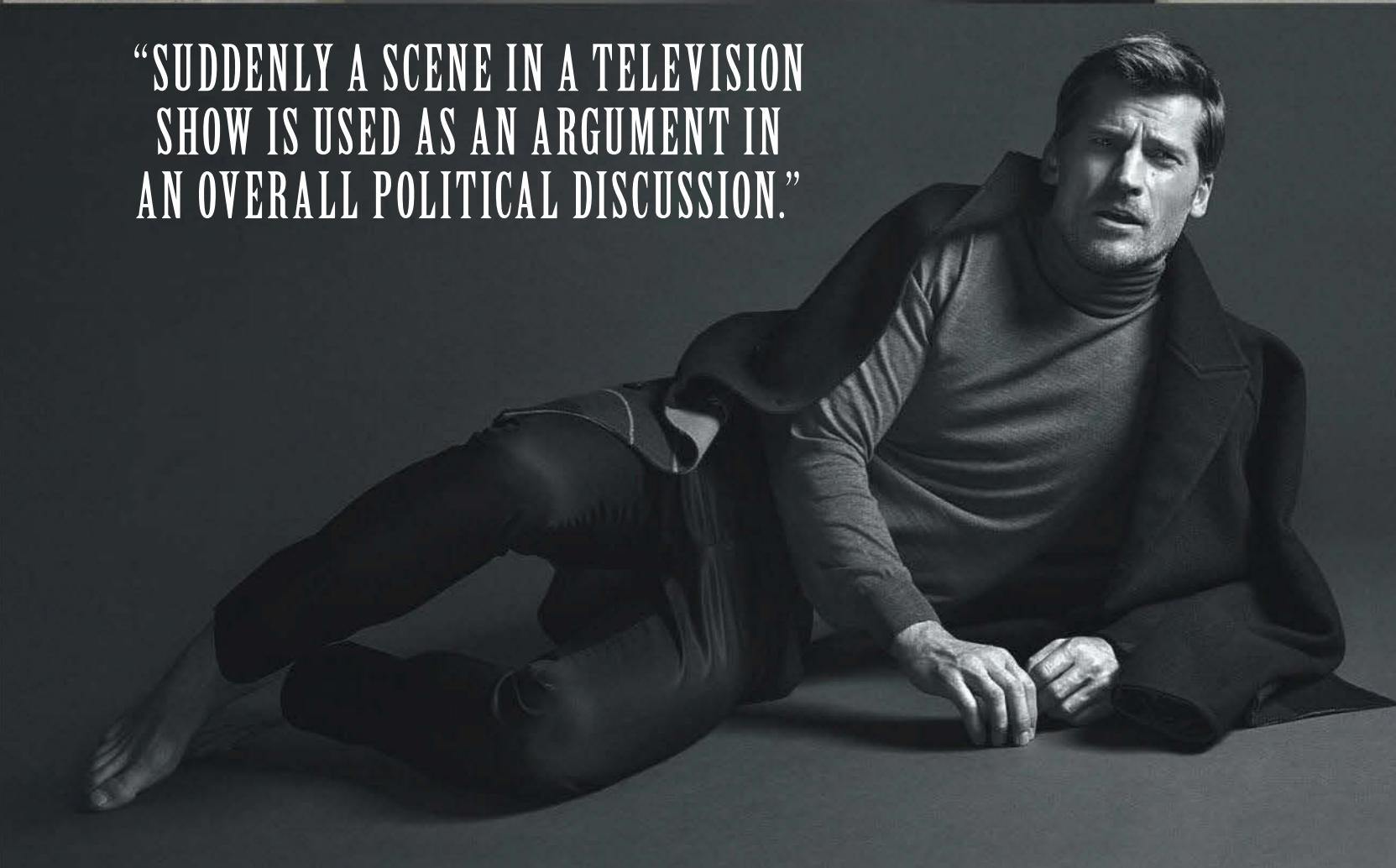
If *Game of Thrones* can claim one great achievement, however, it's that it has opened our eyes to the power of the fantasy genre, forced many of us to reevaluate our prejudices and, frankly, get over ourselves.

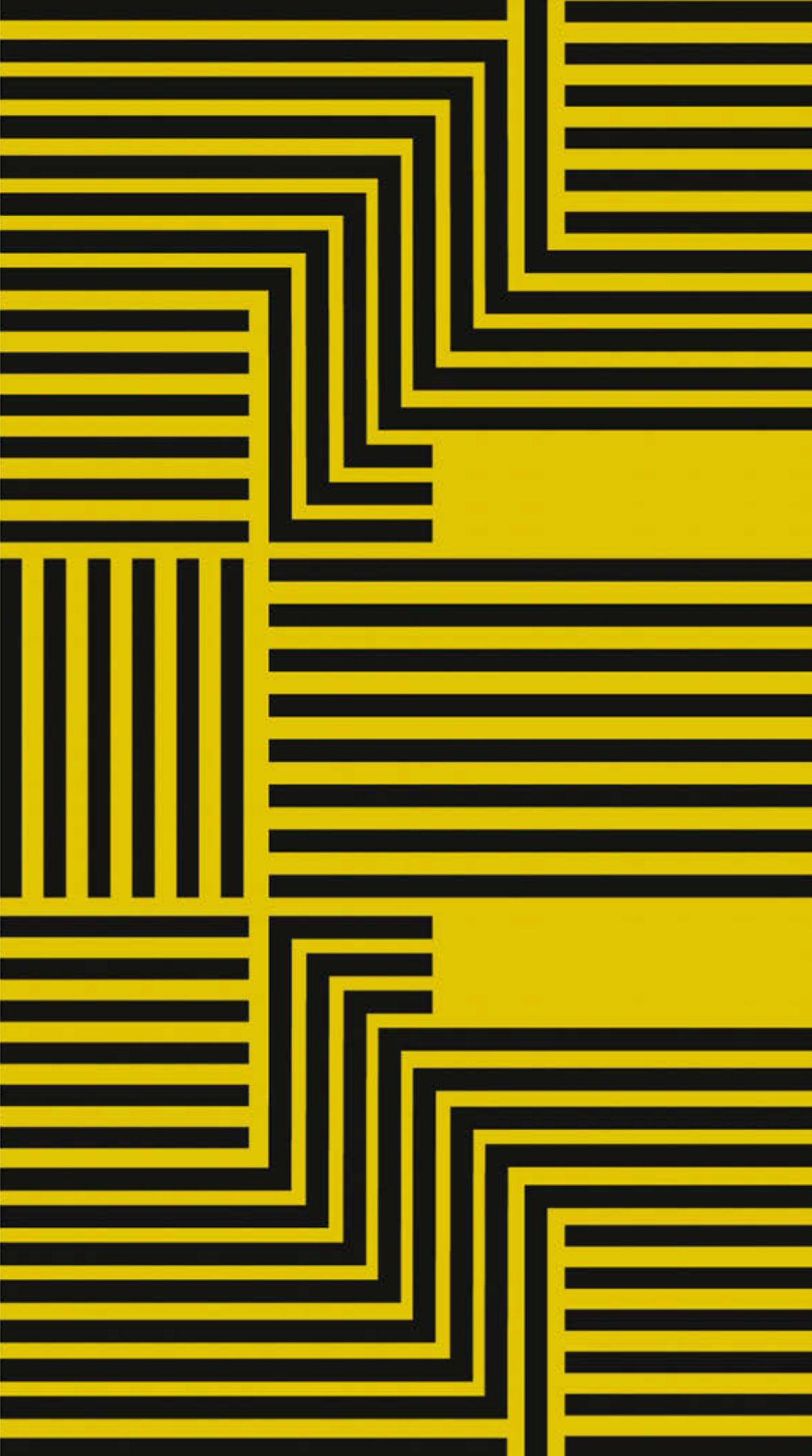
Martin again: "My mantra has always been writer William Faulkner's words when he won the Nobel Prize for Literature: 'The only thing worth writing about is the human heart in conflict with itself.' And I don't think the question of genre enters into that." ■

*Game of Thrones* season five airs on Showcase from April 13



“SUDDENLY A SCENE IN A TELEVISION  
SHOW IS USED AS AN ARGUMENT IN  
AN OVERALL POLITICAL DISCUSSION.”



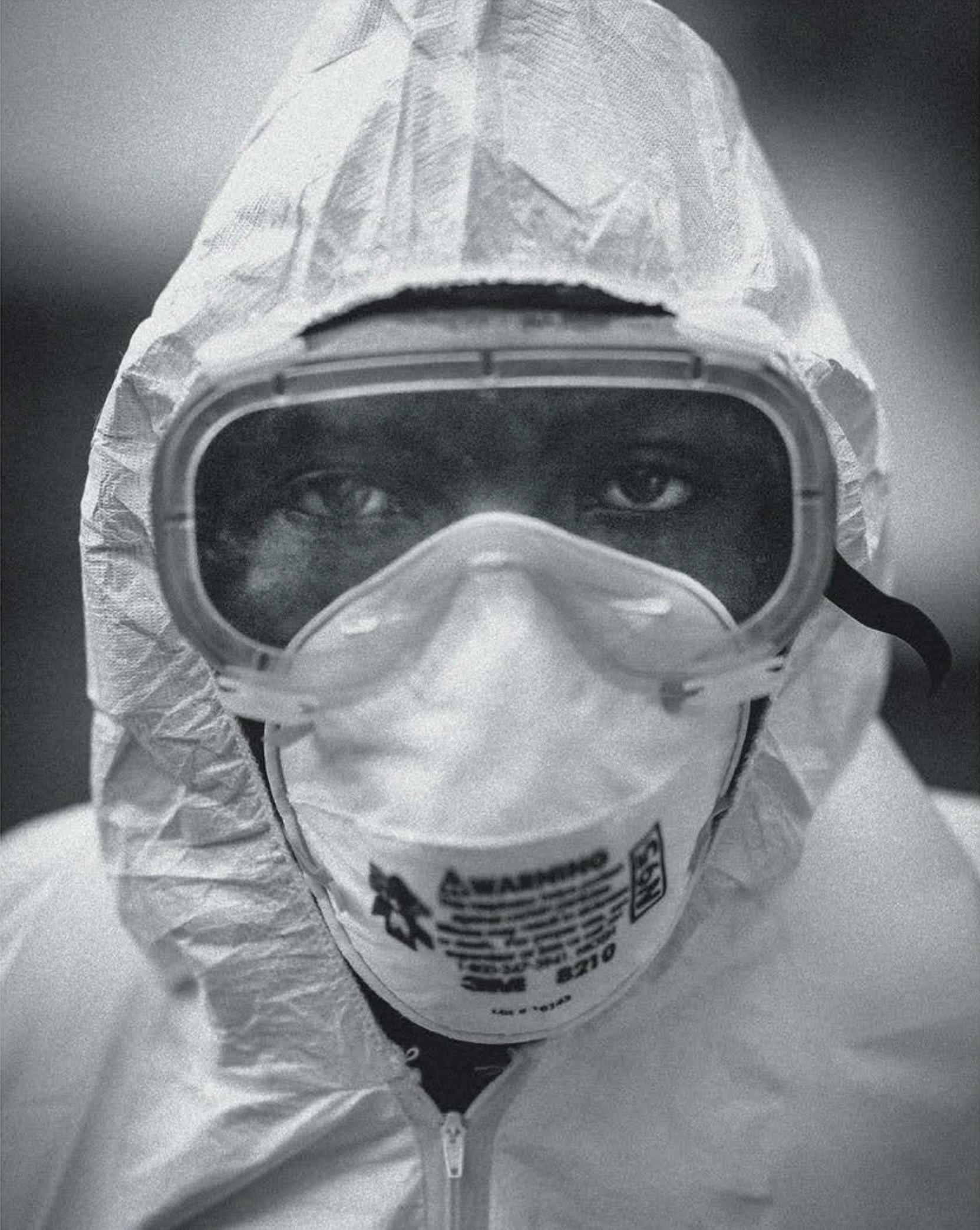


# BLOODY TURMOIL: INSIDE THE EBOLA EPIDEMIC

IN 12 MONTHS, 9162  
PEOPLE HAVE DIED, WITH A  
FURTHER 13,697 INFECTED.

GQ CHATS TO THE  
FEARLESS AUSTRALIAN  
VOLUNTEERS BATTLING  
THIS INSIDIOUS OUTBREAK  
WHILE EXPLORING THE  
WEST'S UNWILLINGNESS  
TO ASSIST.

WORDS LOUISE STEWART



"I've been a nurse for quite a while and I've seen a lot of stuff... I've turned off a lot of ventilators and seen a lot of kids die. But walking into that centre, I burst into tears. And never, OK maybe once, have I shed a tear while working."

Australian Brett Adamson, a furniture-maker-turned-nurse, is sitting in a small, centrally-heated room in Brussels – a long way from Liberia's sweaty, Ebola-ravaged capital, Monrovia, where he worked on the front line in the early days of the emergency.

"I'd never seen such an image of despair as when I first saw that [treatment] centre," he recalls. "Just the sheer hopelessness of it was extraordinary."

Adamson is an experienced aid worker – the past five years spent on various assignments for *Médecins Sans Frontières* (MSF) Australia, including time in Ethiopia, Afghanistan, South Sudan and Lebanon. He's witnessed more despair than any human should, though his stoicism remains intact. And yet there, in that Monrovia centre, heartache punched hard.

As Adamson struggled to save strangers' lives in unimaginably horrific conditions, most Australians remained unaware of what these volunteer Ebola fighters were up against. Local media coverage of the West African epidemic focused on what it could mean for us – the poor white folk, seemingly sitting ducks, helplessly waiting for this fatal disease to breach our borders and infect our citizens.

'Ebola arrives in Australia as scientists join race for a vaccine' screamed an online newspaper headline last August. It hadn't. And it still hasn't.

Even the Australian government was happy to leave the deadly contagion in the hands of volunteers, taking a 'so-long-as-it-doesn't-affect-me' approach to dealing with a disease that, at the height of the last outbreak, was infecting 4000 people a month.

In November 2014, eight months after the first case was confirmed, and following months of rebuffing pleas from experts, the Federal Government finally announced it would assist volunteers travelling to West Africa to fight Ebola.

The newly-deployed healthcare workers have now joined those who've been there since the outset – a tiny handful of Australian humanitarians who decided to take it upon themselves to act.

**IN PAST OUTBREAKS, UP TO 90 PER CENT OF THOSE INFECTED HAVE DIED. AND THERE'S NO PROVEN CURE.**



**THE EBOLA VIRUS TAKES ITS NAME FROM THE RIVER EBOLA IN ZAIRE** (now the Democratic Republic of Congo), 60km from where the disease first appeared in 1976. Transmitted through direct contact with blood (or other bodily fluids such as saliva, sweat, urine, semen, faeces and vomit) of an infected person showing symptoms, the virus takes between two and 21 days to take hold, though generally it strikes within five days of infection. It starts with muscle pain, fatigue, headache or a sore throat, followed by vomiting, diarrhoea and symptoms of kidney and liver failure. It eventually attacks nearly all major organs, causing internal and external bleeding. Death then arrives once a person's body is drained of blood.

Even more gruesome are the stats – in past outbreaks, up to 90 per cent of those infected have died. And there's no proven cure –

sufferers die a solitary death, removed from any direct human contact at the time they most crave the caress of familiar hands.

The worst Ebola outbreak the world has seen – 9162 people dead with another 13,697 reportedly infected as of February 2015 – started back in December 2013 with the infection of a two-year-old boy in Guinea. (It's thought from a fruit bat.) He became feverish, had diarrhoea and was vomiting. What mother wouldn't hug her child in such a state? Four days later, he was dead and his pregnant mother was infected. She went to stay with the toddler's grandmother, who also caught the disease. Within weeks the toddler's mother, sister and grandmother were dead, quickly followed by a nurse and the village midwife. The virus was on the move.

By March 2014, 61 people in Guinea and two in Liberia had died – the cause confirmed

as Ebola. By May, it had reached Sierra Leone and by June, the virus breached rural containment lines with cases reported in Monrovia.

Adamson responded to a call from MSF Australia and flew out to Liberia in July.

"I knew it would be big," he says. "But I had no idea it would be as big as what it was."

At that time, during the emergency phase, humanitarian workers were completely overrun – MSF the only organisation (aside from some limited local government facilities) providing medical care for Ebola patients. The ill and dying lined up outside the centre. Highly contagious bodies piled up on the streets.

"The case load exploded and we didn't have the resources available to adequately respond. We had a doctor but he went home early. And no one else was coming. I was in charge medically."

With the situation changing daily, every evening meant reassessing and replanning the overall strategy.

"The horror of it. I was still trying to..." Adamson breaks off, his voice straining and speech quickening. "The toilets were blocked; there were people everywhere inside, dying outside, dying in their cars, dying under trees. And this was happening in a city."

"I've worked in war and mass casualty events – you know, 50 gunshot wounds in two hours, and you just get the people in and you triage and you keep doing, doing, doing. You work for 24 hours nonstop, but it ends at some point or there are lulls. With Ebola, it's a surge that just keeps coming. And the problem doesn't go away. You can't put in an IV [drip] or rush them off to surgery and they come back better. You push yourself to the limit and think, 'OK, if we get on top of this then we'll be alright.' But you soon realise you're not – that you're never actually getting on top of things."

Physical duress walks hand in hand with the unimaginable mental strain felt by those assisting.

"It's really hard work," says Adamson. "We're working in full PPE [Personal Protective Equipment – full-body, spaceman-style white and yellow suits] and it's hot. It can get up to 60°C in there. Your boots start filling up with sweat, your mask fills with sweat and no longer protects you. You can't breathe. It's like being waterboarded. It's hard to see properly, you quickly become dehydrated and can't think clearly. Then it may be 10 minutes before you can get out as you have to decontaminate."

Beyond being a physical barrier between carer and the sick, the suits also act as an emotional barricade. It is, states Adamson, a dehumanising situation.

"These people have had to separate themselves, or be separated, from their families. They're completely isolated. The disease enforces this. They're cut off from their loved ones and you, as the caregiver, you're... they can't even see your face."

Critical to stopping Ebola's spread is educating the public about its transmission and how best to prevent it. Louise Johnstone, an Australian nurse and field coordinator, arrived in the small Liberian city of Voinjama, in October 2014, as a health promoter charged with doing just that. She found an understandable culture of suspicion and misinformation – people severely traumatised and rightly harbouring immense fear.

"When people see so many others dying around them, and they can't explain the cause, they want to know who to blame," says Johnstone. "At first they blamed the government, then it was the NGOs coming with the white cars, then they thought the chlorine sprays were spreading it. And people didn't want to go to the treatment units because they thought they were mass extermination camps – not many people were coming out alive."



Central to such fear is that Ebola's multiple symptoms match that of other diseases, such as cholera and malaria. Cue the spread of despair among anyone sick.

"You can explain as much as you want about how and why it's dangerous, but you won't be able to stop a mother picking up her dying child and you can't really blame or criticise someone for that."

Says Adamson: "The patients are surrounded by death and despair, and are so full of fear because they have seen what may well be about to happen to them. But among that you're also trying to remind them that they're human beings and that they're allowed to be angry. I almost wanted some people to be angrier – I tried to offer them the opportunity to be mad, because I would have been mad. It's not like they deserved this."

Rob Onus, an Australian logistician who managed the practicalities of transport, construction and waste, was in Liberia for two months late last year.

He landed, in September, just as the peak emergency phase was concluding and worked primarily outside the treatments centres.

FROM TOP:  
A TEAM IN PPE  
ENTERS A HOUSE  
IN FOYA, LIBERIA;  
A MÉDECINS SANS  
FRONTIÈRES  
(MSF) EBOLA  
TREATMENT CENTRE  
IN KAILAHUN,  
SIERRA LEONE.

"I set up radio communications, sourced fleets of cars... we re-wired a lot of the buildings to make sure the electricity was safe, built a new waste area and improved wells for water supply," explains Onus.

Despite the obvious risk and exposure to some of humanity's cruellest sights, he now admits he's hooked on helping. "It's not something you can go backwards from. I've worked quite a few jobs in different areas, in different countries, and none have given me quite the work satisfaction as with MSF.

"It's changed me as a person. You see a different side of life and that provides you with a different philosophical perspective on issues like death. In some way, I'm privileged to have experienced those sorts of things."

It's a sentiment mirrored by Johnstone: "You can't solve all the problems of the world and if you go out there thinking you can, you're going to be constantly, tremendously, disappointed. But at least in the work I do, I see the impact it has on a personal level and on a wider level – that's what keeps me going back. Once you start it's hard to do any other job that feels as satisfying."

Personal sacrifice is also central to those fighting Ebola – each returned field worker speaking of difficulty in readjusting to regular life. Their dissection of aid work is full of talk of lost friendships and the difficulty in maintaining, or forging, long-term personal relationships. "And there are other things you forgo in terms of financial security and having a house," says Onus. "At the moment I live out of a bag, which suits me fine, but it's something you need to wonder about in the long term."

As Johnstone sees it, "you're always struggling with a level of financial instability."

The homecoming for volunteers is also devoid of a hearty welcome – there's no parade, no real public appreciation for their work. "One NGO worker told me this was the first time he felt a sense of unease about coming home," says Greens senator Richard Di Natale, who's also a doctor and public health specialist and one of the few politicians in the world to travel to West Africa to view the crisis firsthand. "He'd always felt proud, but this time he felt a bit anxious."

Despite the general disinterest, or respect, *TIME* magazine named 'The Ebola Fighters' as its 2014 'Person of The Year', an accolade previously bestowed Barack Obama and Pope Francis, among others.

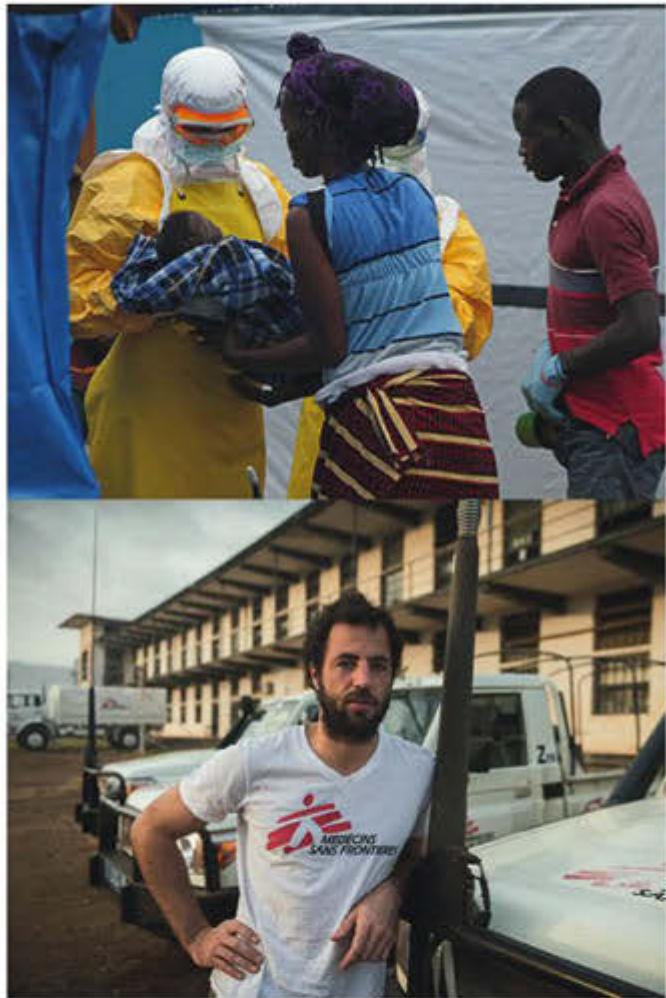
"The rest of the world can sleep at night because a group of men and women are willing to stand and fight," said *TIME* editor, Nancy Gibbs.

Adamson hasn't read the magazine and is immediate in his deflection of such praise, pointing to the African staff as those who truly deserve the honour.

"The national staff are defending their home and their people, and they don't have an option to leave, like me... not that they're welcome in Australia, even if they had the means. They've been doing this for months and months, facing these risks every day. They may [personally] know a number of patients [who die] and their exposure to the threat and to the trauma is so astronomically high. For them to just keep going is amazing."

And deadly – more than 380 West African healthcare workers have lost their lives fighting Ebola.

**IT WAS IN NOVEMBER 2014 THAT THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT PLEDGED UP TO \$20M IN FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION (WHO)** – a pittance given UN estimates stated \$1bn was needed. Meanwhile, those on the ground waited for an urgent dispatch of trained personnel, grumbling about such a tokenistic handout.



FROM TOP:  
A WOMAN IN  
LIBERIA TAKES  
CHARGE OF A BABY  
WHOSE MOTHER  
HAS PASSED AWAY;  
AUSTRALIAN  
ROB ONUS IN  
FREETOWN,  
SIERRA LEONE.

The voices of discontent grew louder, with the government insisting Australians could not be sent due to safety concerns linked to an inability to guarantee a medical evacuation if they became infected.

"It's an excuse. There was no genuine safety reason," says Di Natale. "And the reputation of Australia is in tatters – the Federal Government cut the foreign-aid budget while I was there and I had to start every meeting by saying I was on an unofficial visit and not representing the Australian government because the anger was palpable."

Adamson recalls a meeting with DFAT (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade) officials last October. "One guy was actually asking us, 'What's the big deal with Ebola?' At that time there was something like 3000 cases. And you just feel like saying, 'Fuck, man. Where do we start? Where. Do. We. Start? You're responsible for this shit, and it hasn't clicked with you yet. You don't even realise.' So, yes, that was quite demoralising."

Johnstone, meanwhile, says the epidemic has shone a spotlight on the inadequacy of the international aid response, and the general reluctance to assist.

"People have been afraid of Ebola and I was so disappointed that the focus of governments all around the world was predominantly the safety of their own borders," she says.

Adamson is blunt in his assessment. "It really separates the nice people from the not-so-nice people. Look, Ebola is a global threat."

It was after direct requests from President Obama and British Prime Minister David Cameron that the Australian government eventually agreed to send a team (via private service provider Aspen Medical) to help run an Ebola Treatment Centre in Sierra Leone.

At the time of writing, the Australian team is treating up to 30 patients, from the 500 receiving treatment across West Africa. A further \$45m has been pledged to fund the response work of Aspen and other organisations, though whether this contribution is enough only time – and history – will tell.

While the Ebola outbreak rages across Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, case numbers are declining. It means humanitarian workers are now able to widen their attention from the contaminated bodies at their feet to the decimation of West Africa.

"The markets are closed. No one's working. The schools are closed. All organisations have shut up shop. There's no money moving. The economy has completely stalled. The healthcare system is completely destroyed," says Johnstone.

Many experienced doctors and medical staff have perished. In Monrovia, there's no hospital service, just a single clinic attempting to support a million people.

"For every other health problem they have, whether it be children with life-threatening asthma or dying from pneumonia, car crash victims or people suffering strokes or heart attacks, there's nowhere for them to go."

And that's the thing about the current Ebola death toll – as a measure of tragedy, it fails to highlight those who've died of other causes; those who've had their lives and livelihoods ruined.

#### AUSTRALIAN HUMANITARIAN WORKERS ARE NOW CONSIDERING THEIR NEXT MOVES.

"I would like to go back again, depending on how next year turns out, to continue to help in the crisis," says Johnstone.

As for Onus, he has just left on a two-month mission to Freetown in Sierra Leone, the country hit hardest by the virus with 3199 deaths and just 136 qualified doctors to handle the bulging population of six million.

"I'm going as a replacement for someone who's had to leave, so you never know, two months may turn into six months... If I'm lucky."

His attraction to such work is obvious, but if he had children, would he encourage them to follow in his footsteps?

"No doubt," is his snappy, resolute reply. "I guess that comes from my own philosophical beliefs on life and what's valuable and what's not. I place more emphasis on experiences, understanding and learning than material wealth. But ask me when I'm 80. If I make it that far."

As for Adamson, his bags are packed, sitting by his feet, ahead of a return to West Africa.

"It took days to stop thinking about how we could have done it better, how we could have done more. And that was really hard. *Really* hard. We had bodies... we just couldn't get rid of bodies. So I'm going back.

"And I'm looking forward to the opportunity to be able to inject more humanity, because that was virtually impossible last time – there's a great level of personal shame you feel when you're representing a humanitarian response and you're so limited in the amount of humanity you can actually bring to the situation." ■

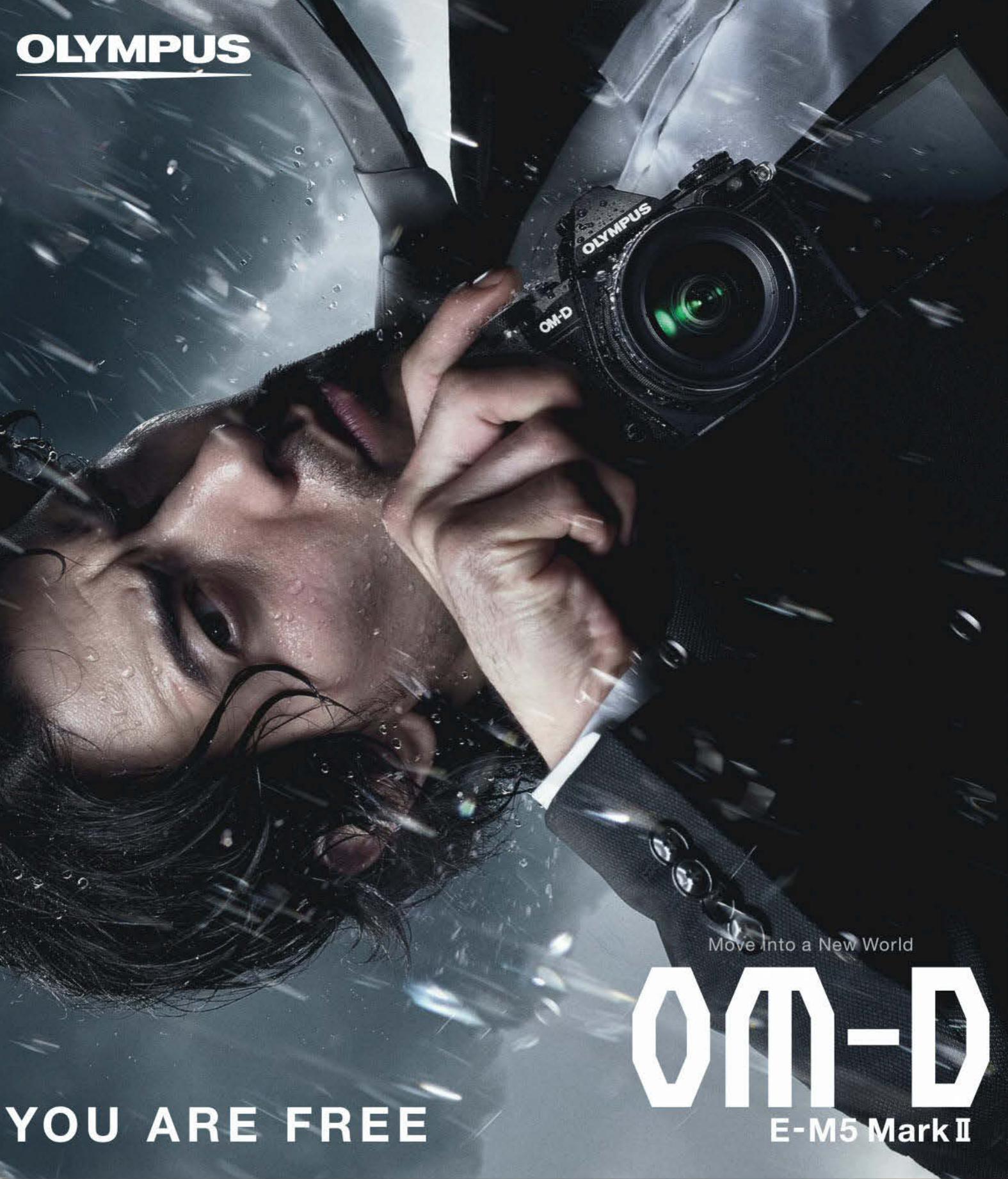
**"WITH EBOLA, IT'S A SURGE THAT JUST KEEPS COMING. THERE ARE NO LULLS, AND THE PROBLEM DOESN'T GO AWAY."**



A REPRESENTATION OF THE EBOLA VIRUS; BRETT ADAMSON AT WORK IN LIBERIA; MSF STAFF LEAD AWAY A CHILD IN KAILAHUN, SIERRA LEONE.



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BACK IN NOVEMBER, WE TEAMED UP WITH  
**OLYMPUS** TO FIND THE NATION'S **NEXT**  
**GENERATION** OF **CREATIVE TALENT**. THE SIX  
EVENTUAL WINNERS WERE FLOWN TO SYDNEY  
FOR A THREE-DAY WORKSHOP THAT INCLUDED  
TIME AT GQ HQ, MENTORSHIP SESSIONS WITH  
INDUSTRY LEADERS AND A PHOTO SHOOT.  
**TURN OVER TO MEET THEM...**





## BENJAMIN RICHES, PHOTOGRAPHY

"Shooting for GQ has always been a goal of mine," says Riches. "And having built most of my personal style from the pages of GQ, it was great to be able to contribute to the dapper inspiration."

Hailing from Perth, and not lacking in confidence, the 24-year-old says he also hopes "to be at the top of a 'top 30 under 30 list'" in the near future. Time will tell.

## DHYAN VERC0, PHOTOGRAPHY

Verco, 22, entered the competition alongside good friend and collaborator Riches – the pair impressing with their unique work.

"GQ has always been at the top of my list of magazines to contribute to as I really enjoy shooting men's fashion."

"GQ Gen was the best start to the year – we got to know some fantastic people. And hopefully the team at GQ liked us enough to let us work with them again."



## TAS TSIPOURAS, GROOMING

Melbourne-based Tsiopoulos may have a few runs on the board as a freelancer, though he's struggled to secure work in his desired field, magazine publishing.

"For me, GQ Generation was about showcasing my skills – to prove I do have the talent," states the 42-year-old. "I have a vision board and on it I've ripped out a 'contributors' page and stuck on a photo of me. That's where I see myself in the future, and thanks to GQ Gen, that future is looking bright."

# THE



From left: Riches wears cotton trench coat, \$116, and leather derby shoes, \$106, both by **Asos**; cotton 'Elvis' shirt, \$99, and cotton 'Johnny' jeans, \$159, both by **Marcs**; sunglasses and socks, Riches' own. Verco wears wool suit, \$830, by **Paul Smith**; cotton 'Elvis' shirt, \$99, and leather 'Lincoln' belt, \$69, both by **Marcs**; leather 'Declan' boots, \$350, by **Saba**; pocket square, stylist's own. All clothing Tsiopoulos's own.

# NEW



### JACK GRAMENZ, WRITING

Having just completed his first year of tertiary education, Gramenz, 19, admits some initial nerves on being flown to Sydney and straight into a series of interviews as part of his GQ Generation experience.

"I landed at two o'clock and an hour later I was in a cab on the way to interview [tailor] Brent Wilson – that was pretty crazy, real deep-end stuff," he says.

"It felt like a true insight into the industry, and I feel lucky to have been part of GQ Gen – it really is an experience you can't get anywhere else and I hope it continues."



### CAMERON HUMPHRIES, GRAPHIC DESIGN

"This was honestly one of the best things I've done – as both a professional and personal milestone," chimes 21-year-old Humphries.

A recent college graduate, the Brisbane-based designer hopes to extend his work for GQ Generation to other publishing gigs – an end desire to one day work abroad.

"I'd like to see myself in either London or New York – working some place as cool as GQ and hustling hard.

"GQ Gen has given me some great connections and broadened my designer imagination."



### ROSS McCALLUM, STYLING

While happy to simply hang out among the clothes locked away in the GQ fashion closet (his words), 23-year-old McCallum walked away from GQ Generation inspired.

"It was the highlight of my career so far, and it's encouraged me to keep working towards becoming a fashion editor at a men's mag.

"I also made some great friends and gained a better understanding of the way a magazine works – the level of preparation and thought that goes into all aspects of it and the roles each person plays."

As for the future – he's not shy in reiterating his goals.

"The fashion editor of GQ Australia. That would be nice."



From left: Gramenz wears wool-blend jacket, \$849, by **Hugo Boss**; shirt, jeans, shoes, pocket square and watch, Gramenz's own. Humphries wears wool coat, \$399, leather shoes, \$229, and leather 'Dean' belt, \$59, all by **Marcs**; shirt, pants and watch, Humphries' own. All clothing McCallum's own.

# BREED

INTRODUCING THE INAUGURAL  
GQ GENERATION FINALISTS –  
SOME OF AUSTRALIA'S BEST,  
UNDISCOVERED (UNTIL NOW,  
THAT IS) CREATIVE TALENT.

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BEEN IN A BETTER PLACE  
— DRIVEN BY A DESIRE  
TO EXPERIMENT AND  
INDULGE OUR UNIQUE  
ENVIRONMENTS.

01

Wool suit, \$599, and  
cotton shirt, \$99, both  
by **Brent Wilson**; silk  
'Donato' tie, \$79.95,  
and silk/cotton 'Felipe'  
pocket square, \$29.95,  
both by **MJ Bale**;  
cotton socks, \$29.95,  
by **Déclic**; leather  
'Doucals' shoes,  
\$399, by **Calibre**.





THE

modern Australian man is more evolved than his predecessor. He's more culturally affluent; better travelled; more open to different ideas. Consequently, he's also taking a greater interest in fashion than ever before.

That's not to say we've completely dumped the typical blue-collar battler as our national mascot, but numbered are the days of singlets and shorts down the pub. Now, locals across the country feature more flashes of style than beers on tap – and it's pushing the Australian menswear market to exciting new heights.

"It's definitely become more acceptable for men to be involved in what they're wearing," says Patrick Blue, Jac+Jack's creative director and menswear designer. "For a lot of guys it was cool to pretend they weren't into clothing, but now we have our own style – and there's way more choice than we've had."

From Blue's own casual conception of cool to the traditional tailoring of Joe Farage and Brent Wilson, the street style of Vanishing Elephant and the avant-garde visions of Strateas, Carlucci and Song For The Mute, the quantity, quality and variety of local designers now means racks of unique clothing to suit all comers.

Down an inner-Sydney street, opposite acclaimed artist Brett Whiteley's former studio, Vanishing Elephant's headquarters are as expected – sleek if playful, the latter demonstrated by two tearaway dogs continually attempting to bonk one another as *GQ* chats to label co-founder Huw Bennett. Alongside fellow co-founder, Felix Chan, Bennett's ridden Vanishing Elephant to recognition, here and abroad, though he maintains there's no set agenda, speaking of the brand as "a lifestyle", as opposed to a cut and sew outfit attached to fashion's cyclical trends.

"For us, it's about dressing like a modern gentleman," says Bennett. "We take hints from what we deem the ultimate man – coming from the war era when there was experimentation with dressing even though it revolved around a nice shirt and pair of pants. Australians are good with experimenting, and men are now more interested in how they dress."

This eagerness to explore is influenced by various factors – many of which didn't exist, say, a decade ago. The growth of social media platforms like Tumblr and Instagram have given modern gents the resources and inspiration needed to develop personal style, with increased accessibility to online shopping making it easier to furnish them. In the 12 months

02

Cotton shirt jacket, \$150, by **Vanishing Elephant**; cotton 'Cheney' shirt, \$169, by **Rodd & Gunn**; silk tie, \$129, by **Farage**; cotton 'Andy' pants, \$249, by **Jac+Jack**.

03

Wool 'Fulton' coat, \$599, wool 'Cannon' pants, \$199, and leather 'Stokes' brogues, \$269, all by **Aquila**; wool 'Rae' jumper, \$329, by **Jac+Jack**; cotton socks, \$29.95, by **Déclic**.





04

This page: Wool jacket, \$829, wool pants, \$329, and wool tie, \$129, all by **Farage**; cotton shirt, \$119, by **Brent Wilson**; cotton socks, \$29.95, by **Déclic**; leather 'Rothwell' shoes, \$279, by **Aquila**; silk 'Ferrara' pocket square, \$39.95, by **MJ Bale**.

05

Right: Wool 'Marquette' suit, \$899, by **MJ Bale**; wool jumper, \$499, by **Jac+Jack**; cotton-blend 'Hank' socks, \$15, by **Barnaby**; leather shoes, \$240, by **Vanishing Elephant**; silk pocket square, \$59, by **Farage**.



to November 2014, Aussies spent \$16bn online – fashion sales nudging \$100m.

“There’s definitely a lot more avenues now [to witness fashion trends],” says Brent Wilson. “Everywhere you look, especially if you’re into it, you’ve got *GQ*, *GQ* online, blogs and articles that steer you in the right direction. In terms of style and aesthetics, men are taking note, guys are embracing it more – they’re not scared to be a bit different. The world’s a smaller place these days.”

Then there’s the refocused high-street sector that’s seen international brands flock here, bringing yet more choice (and competition).

Since Zara first flung open its doors in 2011, H&M, UNIQLO and Topman have quickly followed, moves matched by more traditional names like Brooks Brothers and Sunspel.

Best yet, these interlopers aren’t the only ones making inroads overseas – Australian menswear, too, on the move as it begins to gather global recognition.

“Sure, it’s happening,” says Blue. “Ten years ago, it was that whole Swedish thing – Acne and that stuff – and now something like that is starting to develop from Australia.”

He’s right. Vanishing Elephant is a well-known player in the Asian market, Jac+Jack recently opened a London boutique, while MJ Bale, on the (literal) backs of nearly every national sporting team, has also found an international following.

Wilson, meanwhile, admits he’s eyeing off a stand-alone retail location in New York.

“A lot of our traffic comes from the US, so we figure we can go over there with not a lot of risk involved. Look, it’s not easy but I feel like in the last two years we’ve really made a name for ourselves.”

As have Australian men – and the local menswear market in general. ■



"MEN ARE  
NOW INVOLVED  
IN WHAT  
THEY'RE WEARING  
AND THERE'S  
MORE CHOICE  
THAN EVER."

06

Wool cardigan, \$160,  
by **Vanishing Elephant**;  
cotton 'Classic' shirt,  
\$189, by **Farage**; wool/  
nylon 'Bamford' pants,  
\$199, by **Aquila**; wool  
'Trax' scarf, \$199, by  
**Jac+Jack**.

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# Unseen

 Report this post

**Pornography.  
Suicide bombings.  
Animal torture.  
Beheadings.  
Inside the soul-  
crushing world of  
content moderation,  
where low-wage  
labourers soak up the  
worst of humanity –  
and keep it off your  
Facebook feed.**

**Words** Adrian Chen **Photography** Moises Saman



ONE OF THE  
THOUSANDS  
OF SUICIDAL  
MESSAGES  
THAT ARE  
MODERATED  
ONLINE.

I'm probably going to kill myself very soon  
Going to kill myself

Foxfield, Colorado



**The campuses of the tech industry are famous for lavish cafeterias, free shuttles, hangouts, slides and on-site laundry services.** But on a muggy summer afternoon, some of these same companies' most important work is being done 11,000 kilometres away, on the second floor of a former elementary school at the end of a row of auto mechanics' stalls in Bacoor, a gritty Filipino town south-west of Manila. Climbing the building's narrow stairwell, you need to press against the wall to slide by workers heading down for a cigarette break. Up one flight, a drowsy security guard staffs what looks like a front desk – a wooden table in a dark hallway overflowing with folders.

Past him is a large room packed with workers manning PCs on long tables. One of them, Michael Baybayan, is an enthusiastic 22-year-old with a jaunty pouf of reddish-brown hair. If the space does not resemble a typical start-up's office, neither does the work on Baybayan's screen.

It appears to show a zoomed-in photo of a two-pronged dildo wedged in a vagina. *Appears* because we can barely begin to make sense of the image – a baseball-card-sized abstraction of flesh and translucent pink plastic – before he deletes it with a casual flick of his mouse.

Baybayan is part of a massive labour force that handles the removal of offensive material (content moderation) for US social-networking sites. As social media connects more people, more intimately than ever before, companies have been confronted with the 'Grandma Problem': Now that grandparents routinely use services like Facebook to connect with their families, they're exposed to the internet's array of racists, creeps, criminals and bullies. They won't continue to log on if they find their family photos sandwiched between

a gruesome Russian highway accident and a hardcore porn video. Social media's growth into a multibillion-dollar industry, and its lasting mainstream appeal, has depended, in large part, on companies' ability to police the borders of their user-generated content – to ensure grandma never has to see images like the one just deleted from Baybayan's screen.

The likes of Facebook and Twitter rely on an army of workers employed to soak up the worst of humanity in order to protect the rest of us. And there are legions of them – a vast, invisible pool of human labour.

Hemanshu Nigam, the former chief security officer of MySpace who now runs online safety consultancy SSP Blue, estimates the number of content moderators scrubbing the world's social media sites, mobile apps and cloud storage services runs to well over 100,000 – that's twice the total head count of Google and nearly 14 times that of Facebook. And this work is increasingly done in the Philippines.

A former US colony, the Philippines has maintained close cultural ties to the United States, which content moderation companies say helps Filipinos determine what Americans find offensive. And Filipino moderators can be hired for a fraction of American wages.

Ryan Cardeno, a former contractor for Microsoft in the Philippines, made \$620 per month by the end of his three-and-a-half-year tenure with outsourcing firm Sykes. Last year, he was offered \$389 per month by another firm to moderate content for Facebook, paltry even by industry standards.

In Bacoor's former elementary school, Baybayan and his colleagues are screening content for Whisper, an LA-based mobile start-up – recently valued at \$250m – that lets users post photos and share secrets anonymously. They work for a US-based outsourcing firm called TaskUs and were willing to comment on the subject of moderating content. By contrast, Microsoft, Google and Facebook all offered vague statements about protecting users but declined to discuss specifics. Many tech companies make their moderators sign strict non-disclosure agreements, barring them from talking even to other employees of the same outsourcing firm about their work.

"If there's not an explicit campaign to hide it, there's certainly a tacit one," says Sarah Roberts of Canada's University of Western Ontario, and one of the few academics to study commercial content moderation. Roberts says companies would prefer not to acknowledge the hands-on effort required to curate our social media experiences. "It goes to our misunderstandings about

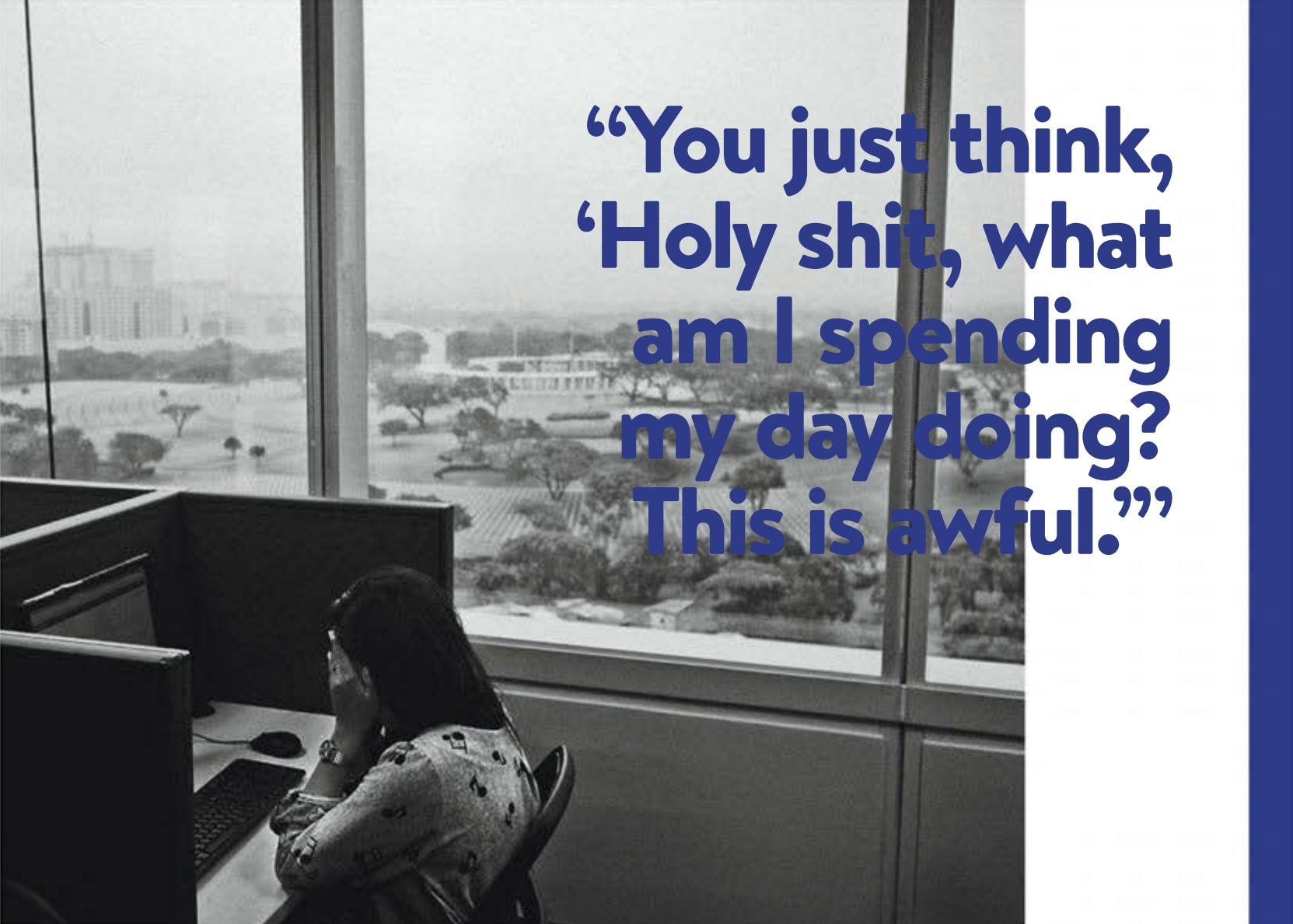
MANY  
EMPLOYEES  
SUFFER  
LONG-TERM  
PSYCHOLOGICAL  
DAMAGE FROM  
THE TOLL OF THIS  
LINE OF WORK.

the internet and our view of technology as being somehow, magically, not human."

Michael Heyward, Whisper's CEO, sees moderation as an integral feature and a key selling point of his app. Whisper practises 'active moderation', an especially labour-intensive process in which every single post is screened in real time, compared to many other companies who practise 'reactive moderation', where content is only removed if it's been flagged as objectionable by users.

"The type of space we're trying to create with anonymity is one where we're asking users to put themselves out there and feel vulnerable," says Heyward. "Once the toothpaste is out of the tube, it's tough to put it back in."

Watching Baybayan's work makes it terrifyingly clear the amount of labour that goes into keeping Whisper's toothpaste in the tube. (Baybayan has since left his job, while the Bacoor office of TaskUs was



“You just think,  
‘Holy shit, what  
am I spending  
my day doing?  
This is awful.”

raided by the Philippine version of the FBI for allegedly using pirated software on its computers and has since moved to a new facility in Manila.) He begins with a grid of posts, each of which is a rectangular photo, many with bold text overlays – the same rough format as old-school internet memes. In its freewheeling anonymity, Whisper functions, for its users, as a sort of externalised ID, an outlet for confessions, rants and secret desires that might be too sensitive (or boring) for Facebook or Twitter. Moderators here view a raw feed of Whisper posts in real time. Shorn from context, the posts read like the collected tics of a Tourette’s sufferer. Any bisexual women in NYC wanna chat? Or: I hate Irish accents! Or: I fucked my stepdad then blackmailed him into buying me a car.

A list of categories, scrawled on a whiteboard, reminds the workers of what they’re hunting for: pornography, gore,

young children, sexual solicitation, sexual body parts/images, racism. When Baybayan sees a potential violation, he drills in on it to confirm, then sends it away – erasing it from the user’s account and the service altogether – and moves back to the grid. Within 25 minutes, he’s eliminated a staggering variety of genital pics, exotic objects inserted into bodies, hateful taunts and requests for oral sex.

More difficult is a post that features a stock image of a man’s chiselled torso, overlaid with the text, ‘I want to have a gay experience, M18 here.’ Is this the confession of a hidden desire (allowed) or a hook-up request (forbidden)? Baybayan – who, like most TaskUs employees, has a college degree – speaks thoughtfully about how to judge this distinction.

“What is the intention?” says Baybayan. “You have to determine the difference between thought and solicitation.” He only

has only a few seconds to decide. New posts are appearing constantly at the top of the screen, pushing the others down. He judges the post to be sexual solicitation and deletes it – somewhere, a horny teen’s hopes are dashed. Baybayan scrolls back to the top of the screen and begins scanning again.

**Eight years on, Jake Swearingen can still recall the video that made him quit.** He was 24 years old and between jobs in the San Francisco Bay Area when he got a role as a moderator for a then-new start-up called VideoEgg. Three days in, a video of an apparent beheading grabbed his attention.

‘Oh fuck! I’ve got a beheading!’ he blurted out. An older colleague casually turned around in his chair. ‘Oh,’ he said, ‘which one?’ It was at that moment Swearingen decided he didn’t want to become a connoisseur of such videos. “I didn’t want to look back and say I became so blasé to

watching people have these really horrible things happen to them that I'm ironic or jokey about it," says Swearingen, now a social media editor based in New York.

While a large amount of content moderation takes place overseas, much is still done in the US, often by young college graduates like Swearingen. Many companies employ a two-tiered moderation system, where the most basic moderation is outsourced abroad while more complex screening, which requires greater cultural familiarity, is done domestically. US-based moderators are much better compensated than their overseas counterparts – in the US a first-time moderator for a large tech company can make more in an hour than a veteran Filipino moderator makes in a day. But then a career in the outsourcing industry is something many Filipinos aspire to, whereas American moderators often fall into the job as a last resort. And burnout is common.

"Everybody hits the wall, generally, between three and five months," says Rob\*, a former YouTube content moderator. "You just think, 'Holy shit, what am I spending my day doing? This is awful.'"

Rob became a content moderator in 2010. He'd graduated from college and followed his girlfriend to San Francisco, where he found his history degree had the same effect on employers as a face tattoo. Months went by, and Rob grew increasingly desperate for work. Then came a cold call from a local contracting firm. The recruiter wanted him to go for a position with Google, moderating videos on YouTube. Google – sure, he would just be a contractor, but he was told there was a chance of turning the job into a real career there. The pay, at \$25 an hour, was far superior to a fast-food salary. He applied and was given a one-year contract. "I was pretty stoked," says Rob. "It paid well, and I figured YouTube would look good on a résumé."

For the first few months, Rob didn't mind his job moderating videos at YouTube's headquarters in San Bruno, California. His co-workers were mostly new graduates, like himself, many of them liberal arts majors happy to have found employment that didn't require a hairnet. He liked his manager, and there were even a few perks, like free lunch at the cafeteria. During his eight-hour shifts, Rob sat at a desk, in YouTube's open-plan office, in front of two monitors. On one he flicked through batches of 10 videos at a time. On the other, he could do whatever he liked. And so he watched the entire *Battlestar Galactica* series with one eye while nuking torture videos and hate speeches with the other. He also got a fascinating glimpse into the inner workings of YouTube. For

example, in late 2010, Google's legal team gave moderators the urgent task of deleting the violent sermons of American radical Islamist preacher Anwar al-Awlaki, after a British woman said she was inspired by him to stab a politician.

As the months dragged on, however, the rough stuff began to take its toll. The worst was the gore: brutal street fights, animal torture, suicide bombings, decapitations and horrific traffic accidents. The Arab Spring was in full swing, and activists were using YouTube to show the world the resulting government crackdowns. Moderators were instructed to leave such 'newsworthy' videos up with a warning, even if they violated the content guidelines. But the close-ups of protesters' corpses and street battles were difficult for Rob and his co-workers to handle. So too the videos that showed misery just for the sick thrill of it.

"If someone was uploading animal abuse, a lot of the time it was the person who did it. He was proud of that," says Rob. "And seeing it from the eyes of someone who was proud to do the fucked-up thing, rather than news reporting on the fucked-up thing – it hurts you so much harder; it gives you a much darker view of humanity."

Rob began to dwell on the videos outside of work. He became withdrawn and irritable. YouTube employs counsellors whom staff can talk to, but Rob had no idea how to access them. He didn't know anyone who had. Instead, he self-medicated – drinking more and gaining weight.

It also became clear to Rob that he would never become a real Google employee. A few months into his contract, he applied for a job with Google but was turned down for an interview because his academic grades didn't meet the requirement. (Google denies that this alone would be a deciding factor in its hiring.) Even if it had, he'd only heard of a few contractors who ended up with Google staff positions.

A couple of months before the end of his contract, he found another job and quit. When Rob's last shift ended, he left feeling elated. He jumped into his car, made the short drive to his parents' house and slept for three days straight.

**Given that content moderators may well comprise as much as half the total workforce for social media sites**, it's worth pondering just what the long-term psychological toll of this work can be. Jane Stevenson was head of the occupational health and welfare department for Britain's National Crime Squad – the UK equivalent of the Australian Federal Police – in the early

2000s, when the first wave of international anti-child-pornography operations was launched. Stevenson witnessed investigators overwhelmed by the images; even after she left her post, agencies and private organisations continued to ask for her help dealing with the fallout, so she started an occupational health consultancy, Workplace Wellbeing, focused on high-pressure industries. She's since advised social media companies in the UK and found that the challenges facing their content moderators echo those of child-pornography and anti-terrorism investigators working in policing.

"From the moment you see the first image, you will change for good," says Stevenson. But where law enforcement has developed specialised programs, and hires experienced mental-health professionals, Stevenson says that many technology companies have yet to grasp the seriousness of the problem.

"There's the thought that it's just the same as bereavement, or bullying at work, and the same people can deal with it," she says. "All of us will go through a bereavement, almost all of us will be distressed by somebody saying something we don't like. These things are normal. But is having sex with a two-year-old normal? Is cutting somebody's head off – I don't mean to traumatising, but beheadings don't happen quickly – is that normal behaviour? Is that something you expect?"

RYAN CARDENO  
IS A CONTENT  
MODERATOR  
FOR FACEBOOK  
IN THE  
PHILIPPINES.



**Denise\*** is a psychologist who consults for two content-moderation firms in the **Philippines**. Sitting in her office above one of Manila's perpetually engorged freeways, she says, "It's like PTSD. There is a memory trace in their mind." Denise and her team set up extensive monitoring systems for their clients. Employees are given a battery of psychological tests to determine their mental baseline, then interviewed and regularly counselled to minimise the effect of disturbing images. But even with the best help, staring into the heart of human darkness exacts a toll. Workers quit because they feel desensitised by the hours

of pornographic material they watch each day and no longer want to be intimate with their spouses. Others report a supercharged sex drive. "How would you feel watching pornography for eight hours a day, every day?" asks Denise. "How long can you take that?"

Close to one of the city's shopping centres, another young woman, Maria\*, works for an outsourcing firm. She is part of a team that moderates photos and videos for the cloud storage service of a major US technology company. Maria is a quality-assurance representative, which means her duties include double-checking the work of dozens of fellow agents to make sure they catch everything. This requires her to view many videos that have already been flagged by moderators.

"I get really affected by bestiality with children," she says. "I have to stop for a moment and loosen up, maybe go outside and have a coffee."

Constant exposure to videos like this has turned some of Maria's colleagues intensely paranoid. Every day they see proof of the infinite variety of human depravity; they begin to suspect the worst of people they meet in real life, wondering what secrets their hard drives might hold. Two of Maria's female co-workers have become so suspicious that they no longer leave their children with babysitters – sometimes missing work because they can't find someone they trust to take care of their kids.

Maria is especially haunted by one video she viewed soon after starting the job. "There's this lady," she says, lowering her voice. "Probably between 15 and 18, I don't know. She looked like a teenager. There's this bald guy putting his head into the lady's vagina. The lady is blindfolded, handcuffed, screaming and crying."

The video was more than 30 minutes long. After watching just over a minute, Maria began to tremble with sadness and rage. 'Who would do something so cruel to another person?' She examined the man on the screen. He was bald and appeared to be of Middle Eastern descent, but was otherwise completely unremarkable. The face of evil was someone you might pass by in the street without a second glance.

After two-and-a-half years on the cloud storage moderation team, Maria has plans to quit and go to medical school. But she expects that video of the blindfolded girl to stay with her long after she's gone. "I don't know if I can forget it," she says. "I watched that a long time ago, but it's like I watched it yesterday." ■

# Jessica



Nylon 'Chloe Abigail' bodysuit, \$140, by **Pleasure State White Label**; leather 'Pina Spike' heels, \$1395, by **Christian Louboutin**; gold necklace, \$7850, and rose gold bracelet, \$12,300, both by **Cartier**.

photography HAROLD DAVID

words BEN SMITHURST

styling BARNABY ASH

# Gones

SHE OF THE KILLER CURVES AND LAID-BACK  
ATTITUDE, YOU'RE ABOUT TO SEE A WHOLE LOT  
MORE OF OUR FAVOURITE PERTH PIN-UP.





Nylon 'Cherie Sneezing Contour Balconnect' bra, \$69.95, by **Stella McCartney** at **Bendon Lingerie**; silk 'Counterfeit' skirt, \$440, by **Camilla and Marc**; calfskin pumps, \$1400, by **Christian Dior**; gold necklace, \$7850, by **Cartier**. **Boss** wears leather 'Baxter' collar, \$435, and matching lead, \$510, both by **Louis Vuitton**.

They say never to work with children or animals – and the path to fame is ankle-deep in the bones of the unwise. Bitten breakfast TV hosts; Steve Irwin, god rest his soul; the splintered clavicles of Siegfried & Roy. But there's one star who hears a pitch to pose with a pooch and says, "Sure, but can we get a bigger dog?"

Her name is Jessica Gomes. She is 29, and she is perfect. She is from Perth, a town she left expecting her Eurasian looks to count against her as a model, but now she is a coveted *Sports Illustrated* Swimwear muse, Hollywood actress and the current face of David Jones. And what a face it is – soft mocha skin wrapped against bone structure so fine it must be protected. Protected from slavering canine jaws and teeth.

"No!" she laughs, tiny in a swivel chair and cocooned in a colossal robe. "I love big dogs. I'm actually scared of little dogs – I don't like the yappy, fluffy things. I love German shepherds, I grew up with one. I love Staffies. And I love Great Danes." Lucky, given today's co-star, Boss.

Gomes is in Sydney to shoot for *GQ* and she is full of love. If this is because of a particular man – a subject we've been politely instructed to avoid – then it's not because of *Walking Dead* star Steven Yeun (Yeun appeared with Gomes on Instagram last March and sent social media, and certain tabloid columnists, into a minor meltdown). More so, it may be due to her confirmed-not-confirmed boyfriend, former Wallaby player Rocky Elsom.

"Um... I definitely feel like I've achieved what I want in a man, that's for sure," she says, carefully.

Gomes enrolled into modelling school in the then very Caucasian Perth at the age of 13. "I really have my mum to thank for putting me into those classes. It saved me

Wool top, \$1470, and  
palladium/brass 'Spiky  
Zigzag' necklace,  
\$2140, both by **Louis  
Vuitton**; nylon 'Minnie  
Sipping Contour  
Plunge' bra, \$150, by  
**Stella McCartney** at  
**Bendon Lingerie**.



Wool/cotton trench coat, \$1699, by **Carven** at **David Jones**; nylon 'Denver' corset, \$160, by **Agent Provocateur**; silk/nylon 'Angelique Brazilian' thong, \$24.95, and nylon 'Vanessa' stockings, \$12.95, both by **Levante**; leather 'Hot Chick' pumps, \$1195, by **Christian Louboutin**; gold necklace, \$7850, by **Cartier**.

from feeling like an outsider." Fame found Gomes in 2007, when a wildly popular South Korean ad spot (for LG) turned into a reality-TV show called *My Name Is Jessica Gomes*. Even today, she says, fans in Seoul are obsessed and mobs follow her every move.

Then came the US, where she's been (ever-so-charmingly) name-checked, in song, by Kanye West, and cameoed in last year's *Transformers: Age of Extinction*. The tipping point, however, was a career-making run in *Sports Illustrated*'s iconic 'Swimsuit' issue, of which she's now done seven editions (and counting). Famously, her 2008 debut featured her lolling in a tropical shore break – nude but for body paint.

"In a weird way, it did feel like I was clothed," she says. "It took 12 hours to paint the whole swimsuit on, and we'd do the shots – I'd lay down, and it was all coming off – and in half an hour the beautiful artwork they'd done was gone. That was when I was like, 'Ah, I'm naked.' It was a strange moment."

Having performed the rare trick of first becoming famous globally, and only then locally, Gomes remains based in L.A. But for the moment, she's back on home turf – to collect what's due. Think of this as her coronation tour.

And if she was looking for someone to share that love, then? "That's funny," she laughs. "Well, I definitely love a guy with great family values – it's important. Someone who can make me laugh, is cultured, has good taste..."

And is devastatingly good looking? "In a masculine way, not a model sense. I definitely like a man. A viking! You need to be like Thor. Save the world. A protector."

Protect Gomes from the world's evils, lucky man. Even smite them with your hammer. Though, she herself is all sweetness with the children and animals. And super cool with giant dogs. ■



“I LOVE A GUY WITH GREAT FAMILY VALUES – IT’S IMPORTANT. SOMEONE WHO CAN MAKE ME LAUGH, IS CULTURED AND HAS GOOD TASTE.”



Polyester/polyamide dress, \$4195, by **Burberry Prorsum**; silk/nylon 'Angelique Underwire' bra, \$59.95, and silk/nylon 'Angelique Shortie' briefs, \$24.95, both by **Levante**; suede/leather 'Eyeline' pumps, \$995, by **Louis Vuitton**; gold necklace, \$7850, by **Cartier**. Boss wears leather 'Baxter' collar, \$435, and matching lead, \$510, both by **Louis Vuitton**.



FOR A BEHIND-THE-SCENES VIDEO FROM THE SHOOT, DOWNLOAD OUR ENHANCED iPad EDITION.

# THAI LIFE

LOUIS VUITTON'S SS15 COLLECTION HITS THE BANGKOK STREETS.

STYLING BARNABY ASH PHOTOGRAPHY CARLOTTA MOYE

Wool-blend suit jacket, \$3850, cotton polo shirt, \$1270, wool-blend suit pants, \$1090, and leather 'Runaway' sneakers, \$1160, all by Louis Vuitton.



Blake (left) wears silk Karakoram Lines' shirt, \$1010, and wool-blend pants, \$1090, both by Louis Vuitton. Krit wears satin bomber jacket, \$3500, silk 'Monogram Jacquard' shirt, \$1380, and wool-blend suit pants, \$1090, all by Louis Vuitton.





Silk 'Monogram Jacquard' shirt, \$1380, wool/mohair pants, \$1090, and canvas 'Monogram V Brazza' wallet, \$900, all by Louis Vuitton; glasses, model's own.

Leather trench coat, \$15,700; silk 'Monogram Jacquard' shirt, \$1380; and wool/mohair pants, \$1090, all by Louis Vuitton.





Cotton suit jacket, \$4250, silk 'Karakoram Lines' shirt, \$1010, cotton pants, \$1090, and silk 'Karakoram V' pocket square, \$180, all by **Louis Vuitton**; watch (worn throughout), model's own.

Blake (left) wears silk 'Monogram Jacquard' shirt, \$1380, wool/mohair pants, \$1090, leather 'Runaway' sneakers, \$1090, and silk Karakoram's scarf, \$655, all by **Louis Vuitton**. Krit wears cotton suit jacket, \$4250, silk 'Monogram Jacquard' shirt, \$1380, cotton suit pants, \$1090, and leather 'Runaway' sneakers, \$1160, all by **Louis Vuitton**.





Wool-blend coat, \$4600, silk 'Monogram Jacquard' shirt, \$1380, wool/mohair pants, \$1090, and silk 'Karakoram V' pocket square, \$180, all by Louis Vuitton.

Silk 'Karakoram Lines' shirt, \$1010, wool-blend 'Shadow Stripe' pants, \$1090, and leather satchel, \$6500, all by Louis Vuitton; bracelet, model's own. Grooming: Wilawan Thipcharoen. Models: Krit 'Boom' Pasuktrakul at S Model; Blake Neale at The Only Model. Location Assistants: Thitima B Suta, Direk Thaiboot. Shot on location in Bangkok, Thailand.





# GUIDE TO FIRST TIMES

WORDS JAKE MILLAR ILLUSTRATIONS GUY SHIELD

There are many firsts in life. Some big, some small, some exciting, others less so – and no doubt you've already encountered a handful. Hopefully, anyway. From threesomes to a spanking new car, here's a few handy tips on the ones you'll want to tick off.

What's that, bottomless champers, seats with actual leg room and a chance to see the world – all on your boss's coin? Yes, travel can be a wonderful perk of employment, but this is how to avoid going down in flames.

- Check-in baggage is a fool's game. Avoid.
- Slip-on shoes rather than lace-ups make your transition through security smoother – and they're easier to kick off when you're reclining onboard.
- Missing a flight is not an option, so get to the airport with time to spare. You can always work in the lounge, if needs be.
- A pass into the business lounge is not an excuse to act like a complete bastard to the plebs in economy. You're on duty, so be nice.
- Keep anything work-related close to hand and don't forget the necessary chargers, as well as any international adapters.
- Pack a grooming kit in your carry-on, with a toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, eye drops and all your other pre-meeting essentials.
- Check in before getting to the airport, obvs.
- Stay hydrated. That doesn't mean necking your own bodyweight in those tiny gin bottles you've developed a taste for.
- Keep receipts for anything you can expense.
- You're representing your company, so dress the part. Keep a tie in your hand luggage and ask the cabin crew if there's a spot to hang your suit jacket, so you don't look like Bob Geldof on arrival.

**GQ TIP**

ON A LONG HAUL, TRY TO SLEEP AS SOON AS YOU BOARD.

**GQ TIP**

SKIP THE IN-FLIGHT ENTERTAINMENT AND USE THE TIME TO BE PRODUCTIVE. TRUST US, MORTDECAI DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER THE SECOND TIME AROUND.

**GQ TIP**

PICKING A WINDOW SEAT WILL UP YOUR CHANCES OF SOME DECENT SHUT-EYE.

**DON'T**

GET DRUNK. SERIOUSLY. EVEN IF THEY'RE GETTING STUCK IN, NO GOOD CAN COME OF SMASHING TWO BOTTLES OF RED AND DOING YOUR 'DE NIRO'. IT'S NOT AS GOOD AS YOU THINK.

**DO**

DRESS CONSERVATIVELY, BUT NOT FORMALLY. IT'S NOT A FUNERAL, BUT THAT ED HARDY T-SHIRT YOU'VE BEEN HANGING ON TO IS NOT RIGHT FOR PARENTAL VIEWING. OR ANY OCCASION, EVER.

**DO**

KNOW WHAT THEY'D PREFER TO BE CALLED. ARE FIRST NAMES FINE, OR IS IT STRICTLY MR AND MRS? 'STEEEVE' OR ONLY EVER 'STEPHEN'?

## MEETING THE PARENTS

**Every couple is different when it comes to taking the parental plunge. But depending on how serious your relationship is, how far away they live, or how close your other half is to *madre* and *papa*, you'll have to bite the bullet at some point. Want to look like marriage material? Follow our lead.**

### DO

- Compliment the mother on her hair/outfit/jewellery. Just don't go overboard or it'll seem like you're looking to, *ahem*, climb the family tree.
- Quiz your partner on their folks, so you have a bit of material to work into conversation. Or avoid. Hobbies, careers, what they hated about the last boyfriend, that sort of thing.
- Heading out for dinner? Check the restaurant menu beforehand, so you're not blindsided. Best yet, choose somewhere you're familiar with so you can recommend a couple of dishes.
- Take the initiative with the wine list and make suggestions, but ask everyone what they feel like before pulling the trigger.
- Go easy on the PDA. No one wants to watch their daughter sucking face with some dude they've barely shaken hands with.
- Be yourself. Don't drink wine? Just say you'd like something else. That, or risk a lifetime of choking back pinot noir when all you want is a nice pale ale.
- Pay the bill.

### DON'T

- Check your phone. Your Instagram followers can wait.
- Order anything messy. Nothing says 'future son-in-law' like watching a grown man tuck a napkin into his shirt and wrestle a pair of lobster claws.
- Mention anything contentious – religion, politics, a mistaken belief that *Two and a Half Men* is good.
- Lie or exaggerate about your job or interests. It will only come back to haunt you.
- Forget to bring a gift if you're meeting at their home instead of a restaurant. A bunch of flowers or nice bottle of wine is the way to go.

#3

## BIG WARDROBE INVESTMENT



**So you've just received a tasty bonus, or a great aunt (you barely knew) popped her clogs and left some cashola. Either way, a quality wardrobe staple is a great way to invest a bit of extra money: think a bespoke suit, quality leather jacket, or a great pair of shoes – pieces that'll never go out of style. Here, some things to consider.**

- Ignore trends. Unless money's no object, think of these as the foundations of your wardrobe – items you can wear, no matter what style is 'in'.
- Check with the store to see if there's a warranty. Many labels let you return items for replacement or repair if faulty – particularly bags or shoes.
- The salesperson is not your friend, so bring someone who'll tell the truth. If it's between getting a fat commission and you leaving the store looking like Mickey Rourke, you're probably going to lose out.
- Shopping online is great, but nothing beats trying something on instore. Then again, if e-tail is the only way you'll go, pick a site that lets you return it for free if it's not quite right.
- Don't justify spending big by saying you'll one day re-sell it. Let's face it – you won't, or, ideally, you'll love it too much to ever part ways.

4

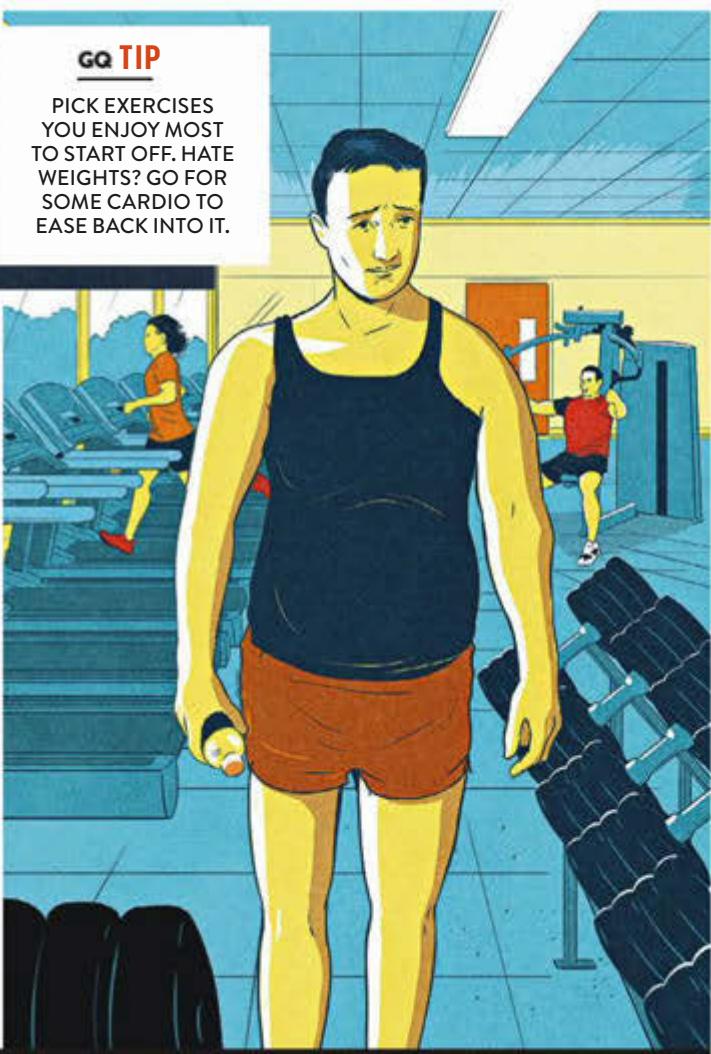
## DAY BACK AT THE GYM

**Maybe you've been on holiday – or just too lazy to work out for a few months. The good news is it's not too late to get back on the (pommel) horse, especially with these pointers.**

- Take it easy. You don't need to impress anyone – this first time is more about establishing a routine. Overdoing it will mean you're less likely to head back.
- Speaking of, the best way to ensure you go regularly is to make it a ritual – if you only train when you feel like it, you're asking for trouble.
- Eat a decent meal beforehand so you're not running on empty.
- Avoid going at peak times. Fewer people are around and you'll feel less self-conscious. Mid-morning or mid-afternoon are the best bets.
- Monitor progress. Nothing incentivises you to get fit like seeing results firsthand. Set goals to tick off as you achieve them.
- Take a friend and commit together, so you have someone to offer encouragement, should motivation start to lag.
- Put together a playlist of favourite songs or other upbeat music that fits with your workout and spurs you on.
- Try to figure out what made you stop last time – to prevent the same thing happening again.

### GQ TIP

**PICK EXERCISES YOU ENJOY MOST TO START OFF. HATE WEIGHTS? GO FOR SOME CARDIO TO EASE BACK INTO IT.**



# MÉNAGE À TROIS

5

**When it comes to sexual fantasies, having a threesome is certainly up there. Safe sex is a must, but then what? Whether it's guys, girls or a mixture of both, sexual health and relationship counsellor Gia Ravazzotti, of Conscious Intimacy, will make sure you avoid any awkwardness.**

## Have A Frank Conversation

Before you even get down to business, it's best to know why, and what, you want from it. "Be clear about the motivations," says Ravazzotti. "Explaining why you want a threesome prevents your partner from making assumptions."

## Choose The Third Party

"For a first time, definitely go for a stranger," she says. "If you have one with a friend, then relationships could be ruined. It should be someone who you both find attractive and feel

comfortable with – some couples have their first threesome with a sex worker, which can help to alleviate nerves."

## Where To Look

"Sites like [redhotpie.com.au](http://redhotpie.com.au) and [adultmatchmaker.com.au](http://adultmatchmaker.com.au) are great for finding like-minded people. Or a swingers club is a relaxed setting where you can meet others who want to explore similar things."

## Getting Started

"Communication is vital. Frequently check in with each other to see that everyone is feeling good and enjoying it. If anyone gets uncomfortable, make sure they say so and it's dealt with appropriately."

## After It's Over

Keen for more? Or not so much? Ravazzotti says it's best to play it by ear. "Sometimes partners are surprised by how much they enjoy it, while the initiator may realise it's not for them. If one partner doesn't want it to happen again, but the other is desperate for more, counselling might help."



7

# VIP PARTY

**Who wouldn't want to rub shoulders with the rich and famous, while sinking all the free booze you can lay your hands on? It's the stuff dreams are made of – or Lindsay Lohan's dreams, at least. With our help, you'll be on the A-list in no time.**



#6

## BUYING A BRAND-NEW CAR

**Short of passing your hard-earned on to Bernie Madoff, stumping up for new wheels is a financially-fraught idea\*. But don't let us deter you. Driving an '87 rust bucket is fine for uni years, but nothing beats the thrill of that fresh new car smell. Keep telling yourself that, anyway. And keep all this in mind.**

- Research is key. Read as many reviews as you can, and get a quote from at least three dealerships before you settle on a model.
- Safety first. Australian New Car Assessment Program safety ratings are a trusted source and are available online.
- Find out how your car fares in the environmental stakes by visiting [greenvehicleguide.gov.au](http://greenvehicleguide.gov.au). The yellow label on the windscreen also gives you a (rough) indication of its fuel consumption.
- [glassguide.com.au](http://glassguide.com.au) or [redbook.com.au](http://redbook.com.au) help work out your car's potential resale value.
- Tell the salesperson you're only looking, to avoid feeling pressured into purchasing.
- Go for a 30-45 minute test drive in a model as close to the one you have in mind – don't try an automatic if you want a manual – and take a friend.
- Avoid unnecessary extras. Factory-fitted safety features are worth having, but extended warranties can be selective in what they cover, or may include conditions like 'being serviced exclusively by the dealer'.
- Ensure all accessories are fitted and adjustments made before you drive off, as it can be tricky to get this done at a later date.
- The date on the compliance plate might not be the same as the build date. The build-date plate will tell you the year it was made.
- Make sure your contract is complete. Things like a car's colour or delivery date might seem trivial, but unless it's in writing, you're at the mercy of the dealer.
- Third-party insurance comes with the deal, but Comprehensive Motor Vehicle or Third Party Property insurance are a must.



**GQ TIP**

MAKE A NOTE OF WHO INVITED YOU AND KEEP THEIR CONTACT DETAILS HANDY – JUST IN CASE THERE ARE ANY GUEST-LIST MISHAPS AT THE DOOR.

**GQ TIP**

PLAY IT COOL AROUND ACTUAL CELEBRITIES. EVEN IF YOU'RE THEIR BIGGEST FAN, LOSING YOUR SHIT AND FLASHING A FULL-BACK TATTOO OF THEIR FACE IS A GREAT WAY TO LAND A RESTRAINING ORDER.

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# GQinc.



## THE FUTURE OF TELEVISION

IT'S THE BIGGEST SHAKE-UP OF THE SMALL-SCREEN'S TRADITIONAL MODEL – AMERICAN GIANT NETFLIX THIS MONTH SWITCHING ON ITS AUSTRALIAN SERVICE, COMPETING AGAINST A RAFT OF NEW, LOCAL PLAYERS ALL VYING FOR YOUR CASH.

If there was a watershed moment for subscription video on demand (SVOD) entertainment, it was Robin Wright stepping on stage at the 2014 Golden Globes to receive her award for best actress in a TV Drama.

The scene looked perfectly normal – even more so when you consider that Wright's been a reliably brilliant actress for years.

But here she was accepting a gong for her divisive turn in *House of Cards* – the first bona fide, web-only series that anyone's taken seriously.

There, sat among the A-listers and Hollywood glitterati, was Netflix co-founder and CEO, Reed Hastings, whose company produced the political series.

"It was transformative – relief, excitement, tingles," Hastings tells *GQ*.

The online-only *House of Cards* attracted serious, industry-wide attention after Wright and Kevin Spacey signed as series' leads, and David Fincher, still riding high from *The Social Network*, came on to direct the first two episodes of the rebooted American series.

Now, with the third season out – and fresh from a Golden Globe Best Actor win for Spacey – *House of Cards* is the calling card for the SVOD industry's momentum. The tussle for eyeballs (and dollars) has never been more pronounced as Netflix launches locally, taking on key competitors – Foxtel/ Network Seven's Presto, and the Fairfax/Channel Nine backed Stan (services that will also contend with established players such as Quickflix, and free services like ABC's iView, SBS On Demand and TENplay).

"The on-demand experience is transformative because it gives people control when and where they want to watch," says Hastings. "Because people can binge on episodes, and have a great night catching up."

From about \$10 a month, each service offers unlimited access to deep film and TV

libraries – available through mobile, tablet, desktop and various other devices.

Now that broadband speeds have reached acceptable, buffer-free levels – particularly with the NBN (National Broadband Network) leaching out across the country – Australia is a prime market to conquer.

Naturally, 'linear' television still has a firm time-and-place: think live sports, the Olympics, *So-You-Think-Australian-Idol's-Got-Talent*, and so on.

"International research shows that SVOD services augment basic viewing habits in most households," admits Shaun James, director of Presto and VOD at Foxtel. "And while there's been a lot of commentary, many assume SVOD services are a replacement, we think people will use it to 'top up' their viewing."

It's a point taken up by Seven CEO, Tim Worner. "These [streaming] alternatives are now a fact of life – but I still believe in the future of free TV; I still think we're going to have healthy audiences," said Worner late last year. "This is a space we decided we had to be in. We can't sit in the middle of the road, we have to diversify and thankfully we've ended up with the best possible player in this space, whose track record is second to none."

Hastings, not surprisingly, is less optimistic about the future of spoonfed, traditional free-to-air TV models.

"Linear TV is like a fixed-line telephone," says Hastings. "It was a very important, societally transforming, amazing technology in its day. Then, there arises a model like the mobile telephone or streaming for entertainment video. Fixed-line telephony has gone down and down for 20 years. That's what's happening to linear TV. Eventually, it'll all be internet TV."

The service providers are entering a unique market. Australians, while geographically isolated, are mass TV consumers, up to speed with what the Americans are creating

**"IT'S GOING TO BE A STRONG MARKET FOR US – RESEARCH INDICATES THERE'S ALREADY A WIDE AWARENESS OF NETFLIX."**

and eager to gorge on it as soon as possible. "Australia punches above its weight in terms of energy and consumption," adds Hastings. "It's going to be a strong market for us, one of the top, because our research indicates there's already a wide awareness of Netflix. And the competition from Presto and Stan validates our proposition."

Indeed, it's widely reported that more than 200,000 Australians already use a backdoor workaround to access Netflix US. And many more, around 25 per cent of all Australians, have illegally torrented or streamed fresh US series (last year's season four finale of *Game of Thrones* attracted a record-breaking number of illegal downloads – 1.5 million in under 24 hours, with Australians the worst offenders.)

"People around the world want content when they want it," says Hastings. "The way we're solving that is with our original content. We're releasing that at the same time around the world – there's no delay, not even one minute of delay, everybody gets it at the same time. That's our focus – so that you aren't tempted to go through the hassles of BitTorrent or VPN [Virtual Private Network]."

Critics of the industry's sustainability point to 'show fragmentation' – with many tentpole TV series and films being snapped up to exclusive deals. It presents a no-win situation for customers who want an all-encompassing subscription.

While Netflix recently announced a sprawling international deal with Disney,

# SVOD WHAT IS IT?

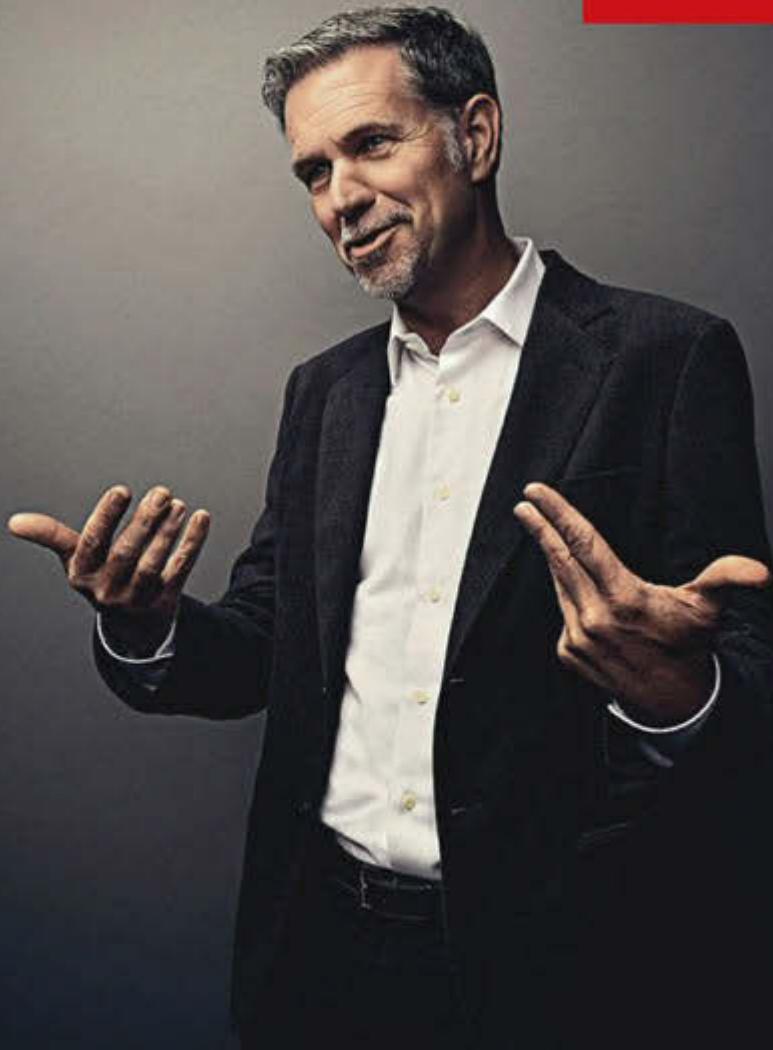
In a sentence – it's Spotify for TV and film. From about \$10 a month, binge on as much as you like, across mobile, tablet, desktop and other compatible devices.

## HOW'S IT WORK?

Three simple steps:

- Sign up online: To [presto.com.au](http://presto.com.au), [stan.com.au](http://stan.com.au), [netflix.com](http://netflix.com). A regular broadband connection will be ample for streaming, but HD and 4K quality requires beefier connections.
- Download your service provider's app to your Android device, iPad or iPhone, or hop on your web browser.
- Connect your devices to the TV, via Apple TV (from \$109; compatible with Apple devices) or Google's Chromecast (\$49; compatible with Android and Apple devices and Windows PCs as well as gaming consoles).

## THE PLAYERS



### NETFLIX THE GIANT: THINK 50+ MILLION SUBSCRIBERS GLOBALLY.

**Hero content:** *HOUSE OF CARDS; DISNEY AND MARVEL FILMS*  
**Cost:** APPROX. \$9.99 A MONTH

### PRESTO FOXTEL BACKED AND THE PRICIEST OF THE LOT.

**Hero content:** HBO'S BACK CATALOGUE, *THE NEWSROOM, GIRLS, TRUE DETECTIVE*  
**Cost:** \$14.99 A MONTH FOR TV AND MOVIES

### STAN CHANNEL 9/FAIRFAX'S JOINT VENTURE AS SPRUIKED BY REBEL WILSON IN THOSE ANNOYING ADS.

**Hero content:** *BREAKING BAD, BETTER CALL SAUL, ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT; ABC TV'S BACK CATALOGUE*  
**Cost:** \$10 A MONTH

REED HASTINGS,  
NETFLIX CEO AND  
CO-FOUNDER.

(which holds the rights to blockbuster Marvel franchises and the *Star Wars* series). The man who obsesses over *Breaking Bad* (and *Better Call Saul*) and *House of Cards* will need to purchase subscriptions to Stan and Netflix, respectively, to enjoy both.

The new wave of entertainment providers aren't taking any risks when it comes to seducing and indoctrinating Aussies to a fresh, permanent way of viewing content. Stan was a \$100m joint venture, while the preparations for the launch of Presto saw Foxtel lower its pay TV entry point to just \$25 (industry experts suggesting that a streaming provider's return on investment hovers around just 30 cents per subscriber.)

And this year, Netflix boasted a three billion dollar injection into its award-winning slate of original content. "We've been doing it a long time – we've been focused on the space," says Hastings. "The biggest thing that's made a difference is being willing to bet on a future. When we bet on streaming it was very controversial, both internally and with shareholders. We were a public company at the time. It was speculative. Later, when we started international, it was very speculative. And there was lots of scepticism. The key difficulty and the key benefit's been our willingness to take these big leaps on intuition."

Let the games begin. ■

## THE SHOWS TO WATCH



**HOUSE OF CARDS** (Netflix)  
 Cold, calculated (and sometimes bloody) revenge in the White House.



**BETTER CALL SAUL** (Stan)  
 The *Breaking Bad* spin-off that has already divided the critics.



**BLOODLINE** (Netflix)  
 A hyped-to-hell dramatic thriller starring Aussie Ben Mendelsohn (see our interview p82).



**BOJACK HORSEMAN** (Netflix)  
 It's animated and it 'stars' Will Arnett, Aaron Paul and Amy Sedaris. What's not to like?



**THE HBO BACK CATALOGUE** (Presto)  
*The Sopranos, Boardwalk Empire, The Wire, Deadwood and Entourage*, binge-ready from sign-up.

# THINK YOUNG PLAY HARD



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# THE ENGINE ROOM

## VINCE FROST

CEO & EXECUTIVE CREATIVE  
DIRECTOR, FROST COLLECTIVE

**POSTER**

"This is from my second book, *Design Your Life*. I did 10 affirmations for it - 'question everything', 'be fulfilled', 'pace yourself' - and thought they'd be good as posters. It's a typographic expression of filling the whole page and not doing things half-heartedly."



WORDS: JAKE MILLAR. PHOTOGRAPHY: GIUSEPPE SANTAMARIA.

**AWARDS**

"We've won 700 or something. Although we're not in the business of winning awards - we focus on doing work that's successful for our clients and reaching the end user - it's good to be recognised by our peers, especially globally."

**JUICE**

"I have three a day. I'm trying to be as healthy as possible after years of working hard and abusing my body. It's important to see your body as a filter and put in things that are good for it. My go-to recipe is carrot, kale, ginger and apple."

UK-BORN, CANADA-RAISED, SYDNEY-BASED GRAPHIC DESIGNER, VINCE FROST, and his team at Frost Collective, have built a reputation as world-leaders, working across everything from books and public spaces, to digital initiatives and branding. For the past decade, he's called this spacious office home. We take a look inside to see what the 50-year-old has collected during his career.

**DESIGNERD**

"A friend in Brisbane created this game called DESIGNerd, which is 100 trivia questions for designers and it's brilliant. He's made an app and I'm designing one of the games too. There's not much in our industry that's made for designers - we tend to focus on the consumer."

**BOOKS**

"I have about 3000 art and design books and some are quite rare. They're important to me because most people don't even read them anymore - they've all gone digital. I just love the physicality of a book and I love designing them, too."

CAREER CHANGE

# THE BUSINESS OF STARTING OVER

SWIMMERS ARE NOTORIOUS FOR RETIRING, REGRETTING AND RETURNING TO THE POOL. NOT OLYMPIC MEDALLIST EAMON SULLIVAN, WHO SWAPPED H<sub>2</sub>O FOR SUCCESS IN HOSPITALITY.

Two weeks after the 2012 London Olympics, Eamon Sullivan and his 4x100m teammates were paraded before the media as scapegoats for the Australian swim squad's below-par performance.

"Astounded" by the questions and the anger, it would have been easy to walk away bitter, feeling as if his name had been trashed, his hard graft for nothing. But that's not Sullivan's style.

Instead, he endured three shoulder surgeries (on top of the five he'd already had) and spent the next two years getting back to full fitness.

When he then won the 50m freestyle at the 2014 Australian trials, it looked as if he was set for the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics. What the public didn't know was that Sullivan had also spent the past 24 months working on his other passion – new restaurant Bib & Tucker, overlooking the water in Fremantle WA. Then, in July last year, he announced his retirement.

"I realised I was enjoying *not* swimming more than swimming," says Sullivan.

But why choose the risky restaurant industry when easier, more glamorous options were available?

"At school, the only subject I liked was home economics. I was going to do a chef's apprenticeship but then swimming took off," explains Sullivan, who won *Celebrity MasterChef* in 2009. "I always loved cooking and cafes with nice coffee, and I love seeing people enjoying themselves. I show my affection through giving and I like that about hospitality. And I also like getting a regular pay cheque – like most sports outside AFL and NRL, swimmers live from pay cheque to pay cheque and that's not easy."

Despite claims he struggled at school, Sullivan has immersed himself in all aspects of the business – not only as a face for the venture, but sorting administrative duties that come with running a restaurant.

Here, the 29-year-old provides insight into his newfound life, what he learnt from being a sports star and what it takes to start over.

**"I NO LONGER HAD THE PASSION TO PUT IN THE 110 PER CENT EFFORT NEEDED TO BEAT EVERYONE ELSE."**



## BE MOTIVATED AND SEEK ADVICE

"Steve Hooker, the pole vaulter, is a business partner [along with hockey star Jamie Dwyer]," says Sullivan, "and it was good chatting to him about retirement because we had similar experiences – performing well in Beijing [2008 Olympics] and then struggling in the latter part of our careers. I also talked to George Calombaris, the restaurateur and *MasterChef* judge – and he advised me to buy an investment property rather than a restaurant. He said it was a lot easier. To me though, it was like swimming – get the right coaches and staff, and give it 110 per cent."



## 2

### START SMALL

"I knew about food but had no idea about business, so I began with a little coffee shop in 2011 – Louis Baxters in Subiaco, Perth. That gave me the opportunity to learn about super, payrolls, tax and BAS statements – all the things I had no idea about."

### LEARN TO LET GO

"Even after London, I still had the passion to compete as a swimmer, but I no longer had the passion to put in the 110 per cent effort needed to beat everyone else in the world. I also had to be realistic about my body. The logistics of getting to Rio in one piece weren't ideal, and I'd



FORMER AUSSIE SWIMMER EAMON SULLIVAN AND HIS PERTH RESTAURANT, BIB & TUCKER; LOUIS BAXTERS COFFEE SHOP.

### SATISFACTION DOES NOT MEAN MONEY

"I'd like to open more restaurants in the future. I don't expect to make millions of dollars – it's just really enjoyable. For me, satisfaction in the pool was doing personal bests because you knew your hard work had paid off. And now it's the same with hospitality; the more work my staff and I put in, the more people like dining with us."

## 3

already spent thousands of dollars on my shoulder surgeries."

### HARDSHIPS ARE PART OF LIFE

"If I'd won gold in Beijing, I'd have retired then. But instead of seeing the silver medal [for the 100m freestyle] as amazing, I saw it as a disappointment because the media said I'd failed and lost, and all that negative stuff. Then came London. At previous Olympics, everyone had a Stilnox [sleeping tablet] so they could get some sleep, wake up and race next morning... Swimming Australia let us take the blame and made us feel terrible, but out of bad things, good things happen. Everyone learnt and now Swimming Australia has a new head coach, new directors and the team is better than ever."

## 6

### EMPLOY PASSIONATE PEOPLE AND BE PATIENT

"I found a chef who put money in my business, which was smart as he's now invested in every way. We've become good friends and he does a great job. But the most frustrating thing is staff who don't give their best but expect to be paid. There are so many elements that ensure a restaurant runs smoothly, and if staff don't care, it ruins what we want to achieve. I struggle with that, but am learning to be more patient."

## 7

### BE COMPETITIVE

"It's my best and worst trait because I'm always trying to get the best out of myself, while also trying to beat others. I take simple things that should be fun way too seriously, but I don't think I'll ever lose that." ■

**NAME** **STEPHEN URQUHART**

**ROLE** **PRESIDENT AND CEO, OMEGA WATCHES**

A DEVOTEE SINCE FIRST SLAPPING AN OMEGA ON HIS WRIST MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY AGO, THIS SWISS MASTER EXPLAINS WHAT IT TAKES TO REINVENT A BRAND AND RETURN IT TO THE TOP OF A MARKET THAT WAS ONCE THOUGHT DEAD.

**MY FIRST WATCH WAS AN OMEGA.** I joined back in 1968, when men were landing on the moon. So, of course it was a 'Speedmaster Moonwatch'. It was the watch everyone wanted. But that was the '60s, before the development of the quartz movement, when the Swiss watch industry started to collapse.

**WHO THE HELL NEEDS THE TIME ON THEIR WRIST ANYMORE?**

Everybody thought the watchmaking business was buried in the '70s and '80s, what with the rise of electronic watches, then mobile phones. And now smartwatches. Through marketing and product innovation, luxury watch brands did a good job of bringing the mechanical watch back, but it's the people who have kept it there.

**ONE OF THE CHALLENGES OF MY JOB IS TELLING THE TECHNICAL STORY OF OUR PRODUCT IN A NON-TECHNICAL WAY.**

If your product is technical in nature, it's hard to build a campaign around the technical side of what you're doing. In our case, we have an incredible movement, the 'Co-Axial', that's different to our competitors. But it's not easy to market a watch movement. It's not the sexiest thing out there.

**WE TOOK AN ARTISTIC APPROACH WITH A FILM THAT PLAYS ON THE EMOTIONAL ASPECT, RATHER THAN THE DETAILS.**

There's no technical explanation, it's not about how many cogs are turning, or how it's different to the traditional lever escapement. Instead, it's just a beautiful movie. It captures people's attention and their imaginations. As a result, they wanted to learn more, so it was



a success. That's how to make a complicated concept exciting to a wider audience.

**AT THE END OF THE DAY, IF SOMEONE'S BUYING A LUXURY ITEM, LIKE A WATCH, THE TECHNICAL ABILITY MUST PLAY A ROLE IN THE DECISION-MAKING.**

It could be the name they're buying, or the look, or maybe it's a fashion statement. But even a fashion or personal statement has to have credibility, so it helps, either visibly, or subtly, to hint at the item's workmanship or mechanical quality.

**YOU LOOK AROUND AND THERE ARE SO MANY CRAZY PIECES AND COMPLICATIONS THAT NOBODY NEEDS, LIKE TOURBILLONS.**

The function they serve, aside from being exciting to look at, is they help people understand why the price of the watch is what it is. Opting for sapphire crystal casebacks, which we do on many of our watches to reveal the movement, is another way to showcase the workmanship and level of detail that's gone into these beautiful watches.

**I HONESTLY DON'T UNDERSTAND THE PERSON WHO BUYS A FAKE OMEGA.**

Even if I wasn't president and the CEO, I wouldn't understand. It defeats the whole purpose

of owning a watch – you buy one because of the history and the dream. What do you have when you buy a fake that has no authenticity? What does that say about you?

**A WATCH IS A UNIQUE PRODUCT BECAUSE IT'S PURCHASED TO BE KEPT AND CHERISHED.**

How many things do people buy today that they'll keep

for five, 10, 20 years? Maybe a nice coat or a suit? So, you buy a luxury leather bag in comparison. It has a nice history, a legacy and a good name, but there's no soul in there. A watch has a soul.

**CONSTANT TRAVEL IS A PART OF MY ROLE AND THAT CAN BE HARD.**

I don't need to be pampered or in a fancy bed when I fly, I just need to be flat. Yes, I have a drink on the plane – you can't help it – and I take a sleeping tablet. After all these years, I probably sleep better on a plane than in a hotel room.

**AS A BRAND, IN A LOT OF WAYS, WE'RE THERE.**

It's been a case of working our way back after losing a whole generation of

watch wearers with the quartz crisis. But now, mechanical watches are back, and we're in a good position, though we have to continue to establish the brand and tell our stories. If you pick a moment in modern history, it's likely Omega is there – and these stories are who we are, they make us different.

**SUCCESS IS NOT AN END POINT.** You can't just sit back and enjoy the ride, you have to stay vigilant and keep working. ■

**"A WATCH IS A UNIQUE PRODUCT BECAUSE IT'S PURCHASED TO BE KEPT AND CHERISHED."**



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# THE GLASS CLOSET

IS THE BOARDROOM STILL BLANKeted IN HOMOPHOBIA, OR HAVE PEOPLE FINALLY MOVED ON? WE BROACH THE TOPIC WITH THREE OPENLY-GAY LEADERS.

**J**ohn Berry answered the phone. Apparently, it was the President. Berry rolled his eyes. This, funnily enough, was nothing new. He and some fellow public servants would regularly prank each other with fake calls from 'the President' and one colleague, in particular, was exceptionally gifted at impersonating the commander-in-chief.

"Well, helooooo Mr President," replied Berry in jest.

Dead silence came down the line.

"... John, this really is Barack."

Today, Berry loses it with laughter recalling this. "I thought, 'My friend is good, but he's not *this* good.'"

After conceding this happened a lot, Obama told Berry he was calling to offer him the position of director of the United States Office of Personnel Management (OPM): a vital federal cog that, among other things, manages national security clearances.

"I felt disbelief," says Berry – who was to become the highest-ranking openly-gay person in US federal bureaucracy. More astonishingly, he was to head-up an office that, 30 or so years earlier, denied security clearance to homosexuals.

Berry immediately recognised the burden such responsibility would carry for the LGBTI community.



"I thought, 'If I fail, it'll be a long time before somebody else gets to be in this position. They're thinking about you through a lens of stereotypes. They're sceptical and doubtful.'"

Having performed admirably in the OPM, Berry has since become the US ambassador to Australia – a plum role, again hand-picked by Barack Obama, that sees him as the first openly-homosexual diplomat the US has posted to a G20 country.

"Some of it is skill, some is luck, but I've been able to break a few glass ceilings."

In late 2014, with a sharply-written editorial, Apple's Tim Cook became the first CEO of a Fortune 500 company to publicly acknowledge his homosexuality. While unofficially 'out' for some time prior to the announcement, this was still *news*: the most valuable brand in the world, according to Forbes, was being run by a gay man.

"The past six years, we've gone into galactic speed, as opposed to the glacial speed we were moving at before," says Berry. "We really can't absorb the monumental cultural shift that's occurred since then."

Many news outlets reported Cook's story as yet another nod towards sexual equality. Others pondered the executives who haven't come out. And asked why.

"I came out when I was 26. At that time, I thought that was it – that I had no prospect of a long-term career in politics," says Andrew Barr, who, when elected the ACT's chief minister in December last year, became Australia's first openly-homosexual head of government.

Shortly after coming out in 1999, the young Barr was subject to a whispering campaign within the Labor party – the catalyst for him stepping away from politics for an extended period.

FROM LEFT: US AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRALIA, JOHN BERRY, WITH BARACK OBAMA; CHANNEL 7's MICHAEL PELL; ACT CHIEF MINISTER, ANDREW BARR; APPLE CEO, TIM COOK.

"It wasn't a highlight of the Labor party's internal tolerance at that time," he says. "But for everyone who was a bit weird and played silly buggers, there were people who quickly moved in and stomped it out, were supportive, and have been all along the way."

For many gay people, strategic concealment of their sexuality is an everyday reality of a white-collar career. Despite corporate culture's gradual evolution, alongside HR's embrace of homosexuality, many still choose to play it straight and keep quiet. (One reason for this might be because recent studies found that gay men earn 10-32 per cent less than straight counterparts in similar roles.)

"Look, it's not hard for a gay man to 'play straight' if he needs to," says Berry. "All too often, and sadly, that tendency to go undercover in order to fit in, or to gain acceptance, has held us back for many years."

Such career dilemmas manifest themselves on even the most elementary of levels – like who to bring, as a plus one, to corporate events or client dinners.

"Particularly when I was single, I would often take a female date. That seemed like the right thing to do at a table full of executives at a big event that the prime minister's talking at," says Michael Pell, executive producer of Channel 7's *Sunrise*. "Even now sometimes – and I have a partner of three years who I love – I still think about it in those situations."

For Berry, breaking through glass ceilings has come with a certain amount of blowback. "I've had death threats throughout my career," he says. "I've had bottles thrown at me in parades. I've been called 'faggot' in restaurants. But it's just steeled my determination. We needed to overcome the hate, the prejudice, not only for ourselves but for future generations."

Prejudice has also lined Barr's winding road to Canberra.

"Things have been said in parliament that people on the other side of politics might regret," he says with a certain sense of amusement. "I'm probably the only member of the government in 15 years who's been called a sissy in the chamber. But it's not the worst thing that's been said."

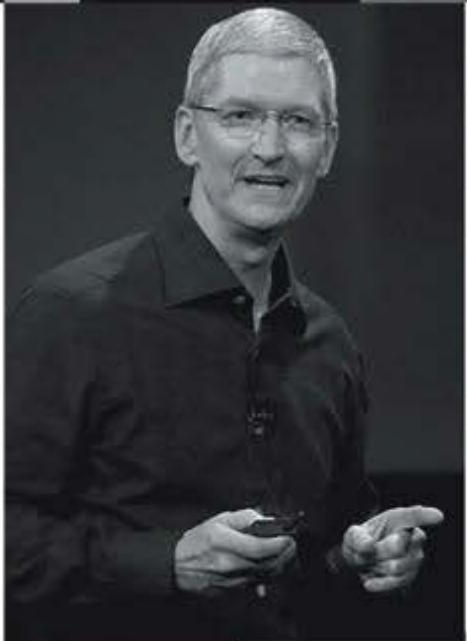
The men each paint the picture of progress as a sort of indifference – an apathy to sexuality.

"There's still some awkwardness to navigate," says Pell. "But, particularly people under 35 or 40, feel they don't see [or define others by] race or sexuality a lot of the time."

"I will be surprised now if it's in any way an election issue or anything like that," says Barr. "My political opponents will no doubt find many things wrong with me – but I doubt they're going to play the sexuality card as part of a political campaign. Those barriers are being broken down. That's good because they are largely unremarkable now."

It's a point furthered by Berry: "My young nephew is also gay, but he doesn't call himself gay – he doesn't think of himself as gay, he thinks of himself as a human being. It's amazing, sitting there right in front of us. That's what we've been striving for for 60, 70 years – that's the promised land." ■

**“WHEN I WAS SINGLE, I'D OFTEN TAKE A FEMALE DATE – THAT SEEMED LIKE THE RIGHT THING TO DO AT BIG, [CORPORATE] EVENTS.”**





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# CHAMPION

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CHAMPION

**T**et's be honest – chiselled deck aside, toned, solid arms are the key indicator to whether or not someone works out (they're also handy for carrying the groceries).

Picturing Zac Efron over Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson, complete this workout twice a week (with at least two days' rest between) to build some serious strength and size in your arms. For each exercise, use a dumbbell you feel comfortable lifting. As a test, if you can do more than 15 reps, up the weight. If you can't do 10, you need to drop it down a little.

30 SECONDS ON EACH EXERCISE,  
15 SECONDS REST, THEN ON TO THE  
NEXT. REPEAT ALL THREE FOUR  
TIMES. REST FOR TWO MINUTES,  
THEN ON TO ROUND TWO.

ROUND  
ONE  
↓



1

#### 1. TRICEP KICKBACKS

- Keeping your back straight, place your right hand and knee on a bench (or rock).
- Holding a dumbbell in your left hand, lock your elbow against your ribs. This is the start position.
- Lift your arm back behind you until it's parallel to the floor.
- Hold the contraction for one second before slowly lowering the weight back down to the start position.
- Swap sides and repeat the exercise.

#### 2. BENT-OVER HAMMER CURLS

- Stand with feet hip-width apart, holding a dumbbell in each hand.
- Keeping your back straight, bend forward from the hips so your chest is almost parallel to the ground, and arms are hanging straight down.
- Elbows as straight as possible, push the weights straight out to the side, slowly raising them up until they are parallel to the ground.
- Hold at the top of the movement before slowly lowering the weights back down to the start position.



2  
A → B

so your palms are facing down, bend your elbows and lift towards shoulders, squeezing your biceps as you go.

- Hold the contraction for one second before slowly lowering the weight back down to the start position.

**3. BENT-OVER FLYES**

- Stand with your feet hip-width apart holding a dumbbell in each hand.
- Keeping your back straight, bend forward from the hips so your chest is almost parallel to the ground, and arms are hanging straight down.

- Elbows as straight as possible, push the weights straight out to the side, slowly raising them up until they are parallel to the ground.
- Hold at the top of the movement before slowly lowering the weights back down to the start position.

#### 4. REVERSE CURLS

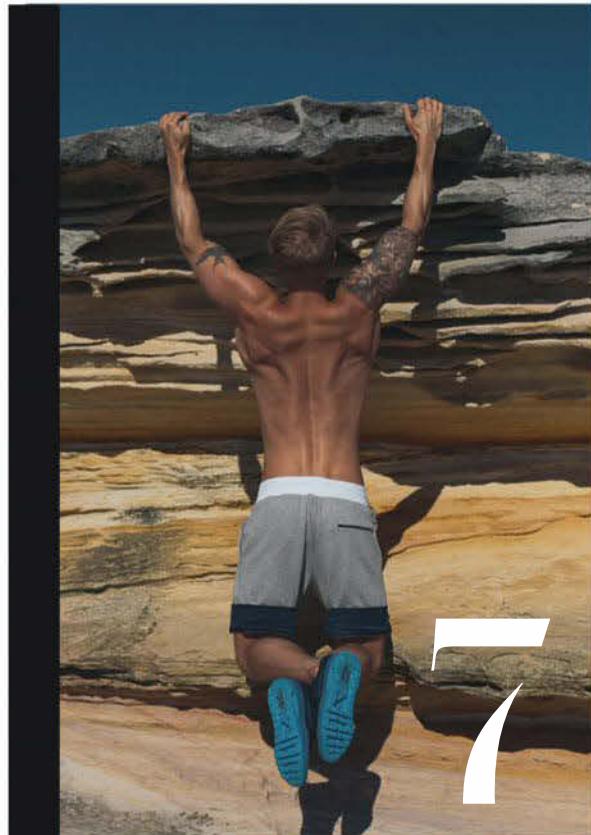
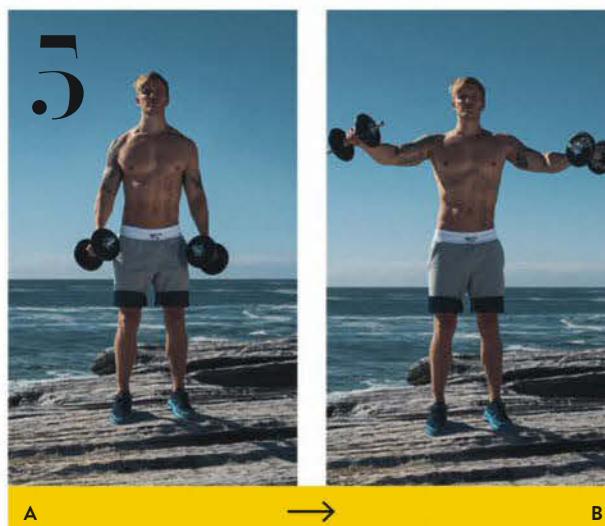
- Stand up straight with feet hip-width apart, holding a dumbbell in each hand.
- Turn the dumbbells so your palms are facing down, with your knuckles resting on the front of your thighs.
- From here, bend elbows and curl the weights upwards until the back of your knuckles touch the front of your shoulders.
- Hold the contraction for one second before slowly lowering the weight back down to the start position.

#### 5. LATERAL RAISES

- Standing up straight once again, let your arms hang straight down beside you, still holding the dumbbells in the hammer-grip position.
- Keeping elbows as straight as possible,

30 SECONDS ON  
EACH EXERCISE,  
15 SECONDS REST,  
THEN ON TO THE  
NEXT. REPEAT ALL  
THREE FOUR TIMES.  
REST FOR TWO  
MINUTES, THEN ON  
TO ROUND THREE.

ROUND  
TWO  
↓



ROUND  
THREE  
↓

20 SECONDS ON EACH EXERCISE,  
10 SECONDS REST, THEN ON TO THE  
NEXT ONE. REPEAT ALL THREE FOUR  
TIMES. AND REST, YOU'RE DONE.

push the weights away from your sides, slowly raising them until they're an inch above shoulder level.  
• Hold at the top of the movement for a second before slowly lowering the weights back down to the start position.

#### 6. OVERHEAD TRICEP EXTENSIONS

- Sitting on a bench/rock, back straight, bring your arms up so biceps are next to your ears and the dumbbell is resting on the back of your shoulders.
- With elbows pointed towards the sky, straighten them, extending your arms directly up above your shoulders.
- Without moving your upper arms, bend at the elbows and lower the weight back until it gently touches the back of your shoulders.

#### 7. PULL-UPS

- Leap up and take hold of the pull-up bar (or rock) with palms facing away.
- Now, bending your arms, drive your elbows down and back past your ribs, which in turn will drive your chest up and towards the bar/rock.
- Once your chest touches the top, hold the position for one second before slowly lowering yourself back down to the straight hang position.
- NOTE: do not swing your body in an attempt to reach the top – always maintain strict form.

#### 8. TRICEP DIPS

- Take a seat on the edge of a step, legs straight out in front of you.
- Hands by your sides with thumbs under your butt, lift your bodyweight and bend knees slightly.
- Now, bending your

elbows, lower yourself, keeping your butt close to the step.

- Once you have gone as deep as possible, push down hard through the heels of your palms, and up to the start position.

#### 9. SHOULDER PUSH-UPS

- Starting in the push-up position, walk your feet towards your hands, bending your knees until hips are above your shoulders, and you're looking back through your knees.
- Turn hands in so fingers are pointing at each other.
- Bending elbows, lower yourself until you can feel your hair touch the ground.
- Hold for one second before pushing down hard and driving back to the start position. ■

**GEAR**

# TO A TEE

HIT THE COURSE IN THIS SEASON'S MOST STYLISH KIT. THOUGH WE CAN'T PROMISE THEY'LL LOWER THE HANDICAP OR HELP STRIKE THE BALL ANY SWEETER.

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This monster boasts reduced spin and a larger sweet spot so you can (theoretically) drive straight from tee to green. You won't, but customisable settings will help you get closer than ever before. [drummondgolf.com.au](http://drummondgolf.com.au)

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**4. 'BLACK MAX' GOLF BALLS, \$10 (PACK OF 12), BY MAXFLI.**

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This nifty gadget attaches to a glove and sends a raft of data – club speed, back swing and hip rotation – to an app on your phone or tablet. It's like having a pro coach on hand, minus the small talk between holes. [houseofgolf.com](http://houseofgolf.com)

**6. 'APPROACH S6' GOLF WATCH, \$499, BY GARMIN.**

A high-res touch screen, swing analyser, with 30,000 courses and blind-shot assistance (if you can't see the pin). It does everything but select the best club to use. [garmin.com.au](http://garmin.com.au)



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## PRE-ROUND ROUTINE

"I like to be up three hours before my tee off, so if it's first thing, I'm up pretty early. I jump straight on the bike and spend 20 minutes waking up. That's my warm-up to get the blood flowing, then I do a few golf-specific exercises – like thoracic rotations, to get my spine moving. I eat at least two hours before I play. Breakfast varies, but most player lounges have the staples: oatmeal is a big one for me, scrambled eggs, or in America it's hash browns. I get to the range roughly an hour before tee time, and go through my warm-up of hitting all the clubs in the bag. Then I'm ready to go."

## DIET

"It's the one thing I'm not very strict on, but I try to eat in moderation – I understand I can't eat lots of sugar and fats all day long. In general, I break the week down and have some steak and some fish, and lots of vegetables – anything raw or fresh. If I'm not eating processed foods, most of the time I think I'm healthy. When I was last back in Australia, I messed around with homemade, organic protein bars – there's about 100 ingredients in them, you name it, it's in there."

## WINNING

"When it comes down to it, golf is all about winning majors and that's how I'd measure my achievements. Some players who've done their time have had some unlucky breaks – they're great players but like most things in golf, and life, you don't always get what you deserve. That's why it irks players more when it happens the other way and a player randomly stumbles to a major. It's hard to get your head around that."

## CLUBHOUSE BEERS

"When I started out, it was a beer before and a few beers after the round. Now, there's no time for hanging around telling stories in the locker room – guys are busy doing their practice, their gym routine,

## 10 MINUTES WITH

# ADAM SCOTT

IT'S STRAIGHT TO THE 19<sup>TH</sup> FOR A CHAT WITH THE 2013 US MASTERS CHAMPION, TO GAIN INSIGHT INTO HIS LIFE AS AUSTRALIA'S LEADING GOLF PRO AND FIRM DESIRE TO NEXT MONTH RECLAIM THE GREEN JACKET.

resting, meditating. Except for Miguel Ángel Jiménez – he's more than happy to share a beer or wine with anyone; we should enjoy him while he's still playing."

## SARTORIAL GOLF STYLE

"The attitude I take is if you look good, you feel good and you play well. Throughout my professional career I've enjoyed having sponsorships with fashion brands and I certainly take pride in the way I look. UNIQLO does everything it can to make me feel the best I can. The '90s were all chinos and baggy shirts and now fashion has come back into the game and golfers can be stylish while playing – it's all turned around."

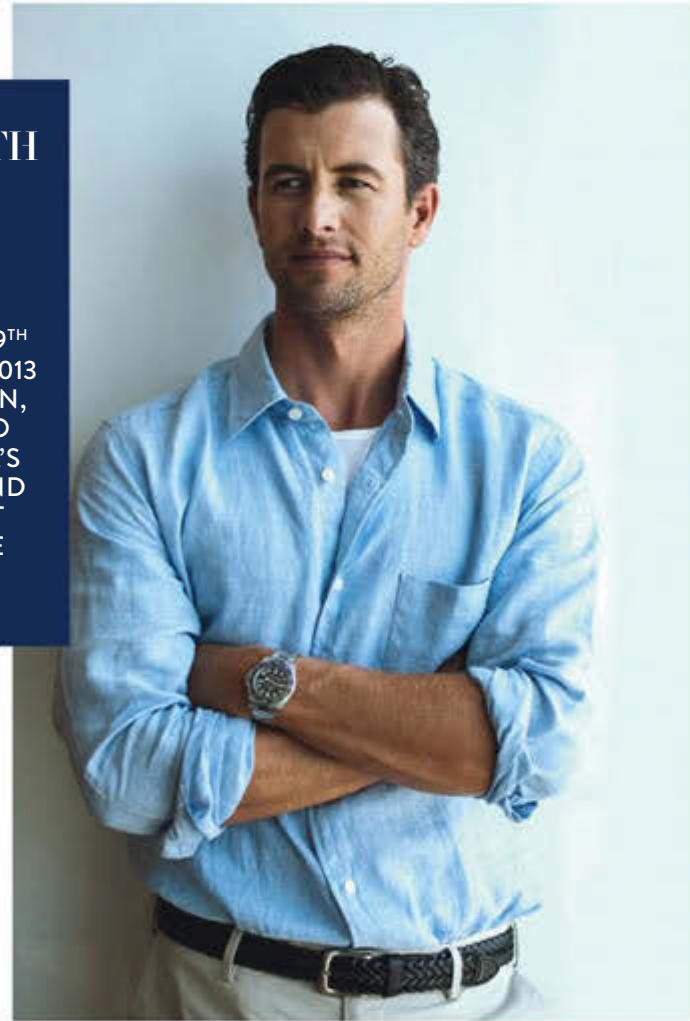
## HECKLERS

"The one to get to me is to yell out about the putter. Stuff like, 'Why's your putter longer than your driver?' or, 'What is that, a UFO? No, it's Adam's putter.'

## MUSIC

"I like a bit of Calvin Harris and John Newman in the gym. But generally, I'm more into alternative rock."

2015 Augusta Masters, April 9–12



**"RORY McILROY IS THE MAN TO BEAT. HIS IS THE GAME I SIT AND ANALYSE AS HIS BEST GOLF CAN CHALLENGE MY BEST GOLF. I'M NOT TAKING MY FOOT OFF THE GAS AND HE'LL HAVE TO DO THE SAME."**



**SCOTT'S BEST ADVICE TO A GOLFING NOVICE**

"Get a lesson from a PGA professional because golf is really hard. A golf ball is tiny and so is the club head. So getting the fundamentals right will give anyone, regardless of ability, the best chance to hit, putt or chip the ball. And have fun with it."



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**Diesel** 03 9663 8872  
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**Florsheim** [florsheim.com.au](http://florsheim.com.au)

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**Salvatore Ferragamo** 1300 095 224  
**SAND** 02 8338 1810  
**Strand Hatters** 02 9231 6884

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**The Tie Bar** [thetiebar.com](http://thetiebar.com)  
**TM Lewin** [tmlewin.com.au](http://tmlewin.com.au)  
**Tom Ford** 13 33 57  
**Topman** 02 8072 9300  
**Trenery** [trenery.com.au](http://trenery.com.au)  
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## V

**Vanishing Elephant** [vanishingelephant.com](http://vanishingelephant.com)

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THE MODERN MAN'S DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO ESSENTIAL SHOPPING AND SOPHISTICATED STYLE.



## IN SEASON

Inspired by Great Britain's great outdoors, the Ben Sherman AW15 collection combines the brand's signature styles and fabrics with a sharp range of new-season prints, including paisley, tartan, foliage and gingham. [shop.bensherman.com.au](http://shop.bensherman.com.au)

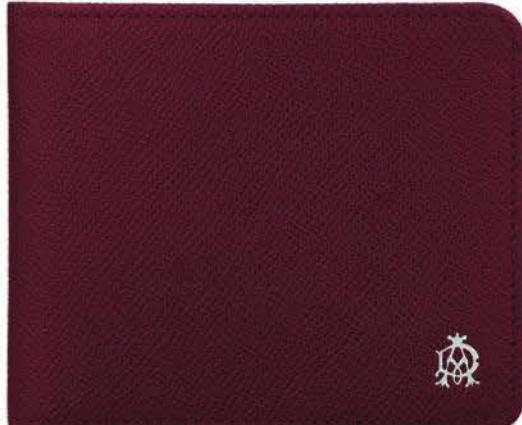
## SIZE MATTERS

Featuring a larger, 46mm diameter, the latest Breitling 'Navitimer 01' is an impressive interpretation of an iconic chronograph. It lives up to the original's high standards of performance and reliability, while the generous dimensions provide optimal readability and presence. Call 02 9221 7177 or visit [breitling.com](http://breitling.com)



## LEATHER GOODS

Stand out from the crowd with a wallet from luxury English brand Alfred Dunhill. Elegant, functional and crafted from the finest leather, these colourful pieces present the perfect antidote to the overwhelming ubiquity of the black wallet. Available at LK Boutiques at Crown Melbourne and The Star Sydney. [lkboutique.com](http://lkboutique.com)



## ROCK CHIC

Sydney label Wheels & Dollbaby is a favourite of cool girls around the world, including Debbie Harry, Georgia May Jagger and Dita Von Teese. Its winter 2015 collection lives up to this rock'n'roll image with catsuits, bodycon pieces and Sgt Pepper's-style jackets. [wheelsanddollbaby.com](http://wheelsanddollbaby.com)

## PEN PALS

Named after Montblanc's iconic fountain pen, the 'Meisterstück Soft Grain Collection' is a luxury range of fine Italian leather goods including bags, wallets and tablet covers. The lining features the brand's Jacquard logo from 1924 in honour of the year the Montblanc 'Meisterstück' fountain pen was released. [montblanc.com](http://montblanc.com)



## FIRE IT UP

Step up your outdoor cooking efforts with a Smeg built-in barbecue. Available with a hood or flat lid, the deluxe barbecue boasts sleek looks and a host of practical features such as marine-grade stainless-steel, five burners, an interlocking grill system to reduce flare-ups and a unique run-off-oil-collection system. [smeg.com.au](http://smeg.com.au)



## DRIVING FORCE

TaylorMade Golf describes the 'R15' as its 'most technologically advanced driver ever'. It features a low-forward centre of gravity, sliding weights and a new front track system that acts like a speed pocket to reduce spin and increase the size of the sweet spot. For more information, call 1800 700 011 or visit [taylormadegolf.com.au](http://taylormadegolf.com.au)

MARCH/APRIL 2015

## GQ OPEN LETTER

Dear love of our life,

Have we told you lately that we love you? (Ha – now you too have that woeful Van Morrison number wedged in your ears.) That we cherish every moment with you? That you really are the bestest and we are oh-so-lucky-McLucksville to be with you. You know that, yes?

Good – glad we cleared that up, because for the next few months we'll be in *absentia* – gone, out of the picture. There'll be no meeting you after work for a quick bevvie, or seeing your parents for Sunday lunch. We'll scarcely be in bed, alongside you, either.

No, we're not cheating... there isn't anyone else. Hmm, technically there is, a few people actually – all young, extremely fit and, *God Save the Queen*, so passionate – phwoar. Some will keep us up all night, some we can't take our eyes off, and some make us the happiest we've ever been – only to then break our hearts.

We're talking about watching sport, of course. And no, we can't just 'record the highlights'. It *has* to be live. There's so much coming up we're actually a little anxious about being able to fit it all in. Hence our three-month leave pass (with a request for an extension likely).

It's not that we're uninterested in your latest shoe purchase (you can never have enough) or that colleague Mike laughs like a hippo, distracting the office as you talk in bizarre acronyms that have something to do with certain non-meteorological forecasts (for the record, Mike's a wanker!). But matters pressing have us wanting to see how Buddy and his Swans will fare after last year's Grand Final gazumping. We're also worried about Rusty's Rabbitohs – will they be the same without Sam Burgess? Can Van Gaal's double dutch chat put Manchester United back in the EPL reckoning?

So you know, we'll also be travelling the world (from the couch) following Daniel Ricciardo as he belts around tracks in search of his first F1 title. And, seeing as we're partial to a one off tailored blazer, we'll be there to cheer on Adam Scott's attack on the US Masters. That said, these guys are handsome, so, if you want to watch – just saying.

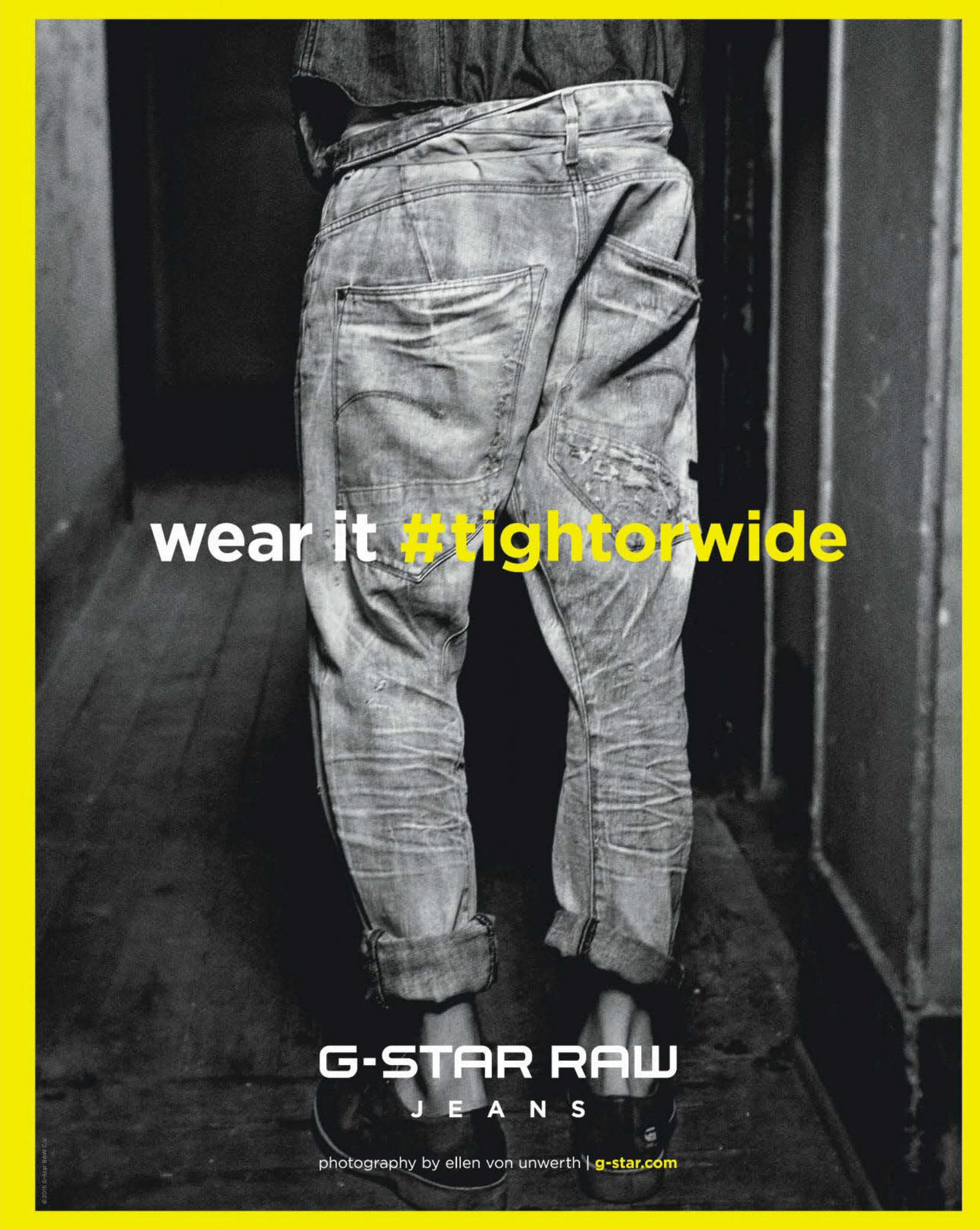
Oh, did we mention the cricket World Cup is being played here? That's evenings gone. Afternoons too. And there's games all week.

And hello, surfing. Our bread and butter. Increased sponsorship, exposure and competition means this year's tour is set to be an absolute ripper. With Snapper, Bells and Margaret River all imminent, might we pardon all the 'yiiiiiiiewing' in advance. And Parko, Mick, Taj, Tyler, Steph and Sally – bring it home kids.

So, you see our predicament? Hang on a sec, don't answer that. Dante Exum's going for a three-pointer. No, dear, that's not netball.

Right, see you in a couple of months,

Sincerely,  
GQ



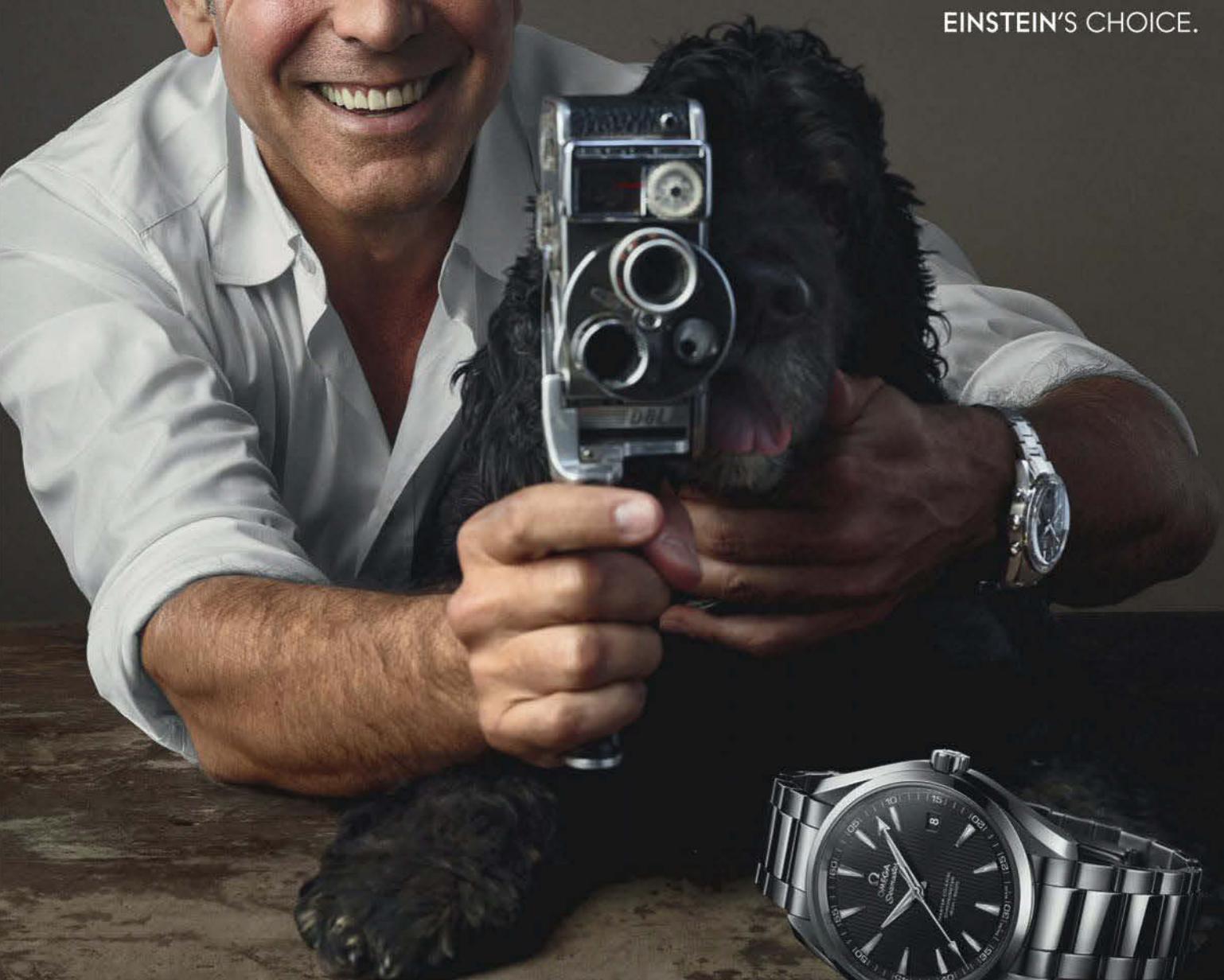
wear it #tightorwide

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